

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1455

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006

AIR SERVICES FROM DELHI TO HILL STATIONS

Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is expanding runways at several places to enable Delhites to reach hill stations within a few hours as reported in 'The Times of India' dated September 11, 2006;
- (b) If so, the details and the facts thereof;
- (c) The name of runways likely to be expanded alongwith the estimated expenditure to be incurred on such runways ;
- (d) The time by which the said work is likely to be completed; and
- (e) The other facilities likely to be made available at these airports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) & (d) At Kangra, work of extension of runway by 600 ft. and associated work have already been completed in the year 2004 to cater to operation of ATR-72 type. At Dehradun, work of strengthening, extension of runway from 1152m to 2134m and several associated works at a cost of Rs.79 crores have been taken up to facilitate operation of aircrafts upto AB-320 type. At Jammu, extension of runway from 6000 ft. to 8000 ft. has been taken up and the work for resurfacing of existing runway and extension of runway on the southern side by 700 ft. at a cost of Rs.11.21 crores has ben completed. At Pantnagar, work for extension and strengthening of runway alongwith associated surfaces from 1097m to 2143m at an estimated cost of Rs.11 crores has been taken up. At Kullu-Manali & Shimla, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has entrusted IIT Roorkee to carry out feasibility study for extension of runway. At Pathankot, a new civil air terminal at a cost of Rs.16 crores with all modern amenities to cater to 300 passengers, built by Airports Authority of India, was inaugurated on 22.11.2006.

(e) After the extension of runways, providing of associated facilities like bigger and modern terminal buildings, extension of car park areas and expansion of apron areas at these airports, bigger and faster aircrafts will be able to operate which will reduce the cost of operation as well as the time taken in transit from Delhi.