GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4340
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010
CRITICAL AIRPORTS
Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an evaluation has revealed that some airports especially at Patna and jammu are very critical and their runways are shorter than at Mangalore airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has selected any alternate sites for these airports to ensure safe and secure landing of aircraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam, an evaluation has been done. Mangalore - Runway 06/24 of dimension 2450m x 45m is suitable for AB-310/737-800/A-321 in all weather conditions; Jammu - The airport belongs to Air Force. Runway dimension is 2042m x 45m suitable for AB-320 aircraft with load penalty. Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains the civil enclave; Patna - Runway 07/25 usable dimension for take-off is 1954m x 45m and for landing is 1820m x 45m suitable for operation AB-320 type of aircraft in all weather conditions with load penalty. The Patna airport was found critical due to presence of trees in the approach path. The matter was taken up with the State Government for necessary corrective action. Jammu is a defence aerodrome and strategically located near Pakistan border. There are Land and instrument Approach procedure constraints at the aerodrome. However, aircraft operation at all these airports are as per safety norm laid down by ICAO/DGCA.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. At Jammu airport, runway extension upto 2450m (408m extension) has been planned, subject to land transfer from Army/Government of J&K. In respect of Patna airport, Government of Bihar has proposed alternate site for Patna airport at Bihta Airport (IAF). AAI had conducted preliminary feasibility study and the report has been submitted to Government of Bihar in October, 2009.