

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2626  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011  
CONNECTING SHIRDI BY AIR ROUTE  
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to connect Shirdi, the world famous pilgrimage centre in the State of Maharashtra by air route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the site identified for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Government has received any requests from peoples` representatives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the time by which Shirdi town is likely to be connected by air route?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (f): Government of India had received a proposal from Maharashtra Airport Development Corporation (MADC) for setting up of a Greenfield International airport near Shirdi in Maharashtra. The proposal was considered by the Government of India and `in-principle` approval was granted for setting up of an International Greenfield airport at Kakdi village, Taluka Kopergaon near Shirdi in Ahmad Nagar, Maharashtra by MADC under `public use` in case it enjoys all the necessary infrastructure facilities required for an international airport. The timeline for construction of the airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc. by the individual operations.