

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5537

ANSWERED ON:07.09.2011

AIRPORTS IN RURAL AREAS

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to allow private sector to develop airports in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details of private companies who have come forward to invest in airports especially in rural areas alongwith the investment proposed to be made in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to construct and develop new airports on Public Private Partnership mode in rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated and spent in this regard during the Eleventh Plan period;
- (e) whether any State Governments have sent any proposals in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government on the said proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (f): Keeping in view the enormous growth in air passengers and to encourage infusion of greater investment in airport sector, Government had pronounced a policy for greenfield airports in April,2008. As per this Policy, the promoter seeking to develop the airport has to submit the proposal to the Government for consideration by the Steering Committee. Application for setting up of Greenfield airport are considered by the Steering Committee/competent authority for grant of `in principle` approval, after they have completed all necessary formalities of obtaining pre-feasibility study report, site clearance, clearances from regulatory agencies, etc. So far, Government of India has granted `in-principle` approval for setting up of greenfield airports at Mopa in Goa; Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra; Shimoga, Gulbarga, Hassan and Bijapur in Karnataka; Kannur in Kerala; Durgapur in West Bengal; Pakyong in Sikkim; Datia/Gwalior (Cargo) in Madhya Pradesh; Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh; Karaikal in Puducherry and Paladi/Ramsinghpura near Jaipur in Rajasthan. Necessary action for project development, including acquisition of land, financing of the airport project, etc. is taken by the respective airport promoters. The timeline for construction of airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc. by the individual operators.