

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4507
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
LACK OF FACILITIES
Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Gorakhpur Airport lacks several facilities such as VIP lounge, restaurant, arrival and departure hall and chairs for passengers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to make these facilities available at the above airport;
- (d) whether Gorakhpur Airport is used by international pilgrims visiting Khusi Nagar and other places related to Lord Buddha;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken to improve, upgrade and modernize the facilities at the above airport in order to attract more foreign tourists to visit that area?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

- (a) & (b) Gorakhpur Airport belongs to Indian Air Force (IAF) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a small Civil Enclave at this airport. There is a VIP lounge to accommodate 5 passengers on the arrival side. Sitting arrangement for 25 passengers is available in arrival and departure areas. However, there is no restaurant facility available in arrival and departure areas at this airport.
- (c) Due to constraint of space in the Terminal, it is not possible to provide restaurant facility at this airport.
- (d) & (e) Any passenger including international passengers can use the Gorakhpur airport for visiting Khusi Nagar and other places related to Lord Buddha.
- (f) AAI has projected additional land requirement of 3.26 acres to the IAF. Meanwhile, Government of India has accorded in-principle approval for a new Greenfield airport in the area at Kushinagar which is 50 kms from Gorakhpur airport. Investment decision to develop and upgrade the civil enclave is subject to availability of land from IAF and based on aviation growth, projection of air traffic for the area and land connectivity from Gorakhpur airport.