

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012

DEVELOPMENT OF AIRPORTS

Mahato Shri Narahari; Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of airports planned to be made operational in different parts of the country in the next financial year or in the next five year plan, particularly in the State of West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government proposes to develop airports at district level in view of the increased requirements of different religious and industrial destinations;

(c) if so, the details thereof, locationwise alongwith the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) The operationalisation / development of airports in the country, including West Bengal, is an ongoing process and is taken up depending upon the traffic demand and availability of resources. The airports taken up for development are Jalgaon, Jaisalmer, Bhatinda, Bikaner and Kadapa.

Further, Keeping in view the enormous growth in air passengers, which has put pressure on air infrastructure and to encourage infusion of greater investment in airport sector, Government had pronounced a policy for greenfield airports in April, 2008. This policy states that it would be the endeavour of the Central Government to ensure that all approvals and clearances are given in a timely manner. State Government may facilitate by giving incentives to an Airport Company such as land, concessional or otherwise; real estate development rights in and around the airports; airport connectivity; rail, road; fiscal incentives by way of exemptions from State taxes; and any other assistance that the State Government deem fit. A Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation has been constituted to coordinate and monitor the various clearances required for setting up of a Greenfield airport. 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 received from time to time, which 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.

The timeline for construction of airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc. In pursuance of Policy for Greenfield Airports, the Central Government has accorded 'in-principle' approval for setting up of a Greenfield airports at Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Sindhudurg and Shirdi in Maharashtra, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hassan and Shimoga in Karnataka, Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh, Karaikal in Puducherry and Dabra in Madhya Pradesh (for cargo airport).