

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3262
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012
AIRPORTS IN BIHAR AND CHHATTISGARH
Ram Shri Purnmasi;Singh Shri Murarilal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to put to use various airports in Bihar and Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including Sabeyan airport in Gopalganj and non-operational airport at Bilaspur;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up new airports in the said States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (f): As per the feasibility study carried out by Airports Authority of India (AAI) for Jogbani, Muzaffarpur and Raxaul Airports in Bihar and Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh; there is no traffic potential for development of these airports and hence there is no proposal for the development of these airports. As regards Sabeyan Airport in Gopalganj, no study has been conducted by AAI.

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.

No such proposal for setting up of Greenfield airports has been received in respect of the States of Bihar and Chhattisgarh.