

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3302

ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012

CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORTS AND ENHANCEMENT OF AIR SERVICES

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated / propose to formulate any comprehensive scheme / programme for construction of new airports and for enhancing air services and facilities in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Bathinda in Punjab, Ahmednagar and Shirdi in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representations in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto, location-wise; and
- (e) the time frame within which the said projects are likely to be started / operationalized?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (e): Development of airports is a continuous process which takes into account the commercial viability, traffic potential/demands, commitment of airlines to operate through the specific airports, etc. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already developed 40 non-metro airports in Tier II & III cities to handle the ever increasing passenger traffic. Further, keeping in view the enormous growth in air passengers and to encourage infusion of greater investment in airport sector preferably through Public Partnership Participation (PPP), Government had pronounced a Policy for Greenfield Airports in April, 2008. As per this Policy, the promoter, including the State Government, 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, Sindhudurg and Shirdi 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. In addition, Government of India has also granted 'site clearance' for setting up of Greenfield airports at Machhiwarad in Ludhiana region in Punjab; Dholera in Gujarat; in Uttar Pradesh; Belari in Karanataka; Rohtak in Haryana; Dholera in Gujarat; Ongle, Prakasham district in Andhra Pradesh; Arnamura in Kerala; Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh and Jamshedpur in Jharkhand.

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.