

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3019
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS AT KOLHAPUR AIRPORT
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of smaller airports in the country which are not under operation along with the reasons therefor,airport-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to restore operations at all such airports;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the airport at Kolhapur;and
- (d) the time by which operations at such airports are likely to be restored?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): The State-wise details of non-operational airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) are at Annexure-I.
- (b) & (c): Feasibility study was carried out for these non-operational airports. Out of these, 13 airports listed at Annexure-II were found to have potential for operation. Kolhapur airport belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) was leased out to Government of Maharashtra for 15 years. The lease expired on 31.01.2012 and AAI is in the process of taking back Kolhapur airport from Government of Maharashtra.
- (d): Flight operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down these Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport service taking into account the need for air transport service of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines.