

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2689

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

AIRPORTS AND AIR SERVICES .

Adityanath Shri Yogi;Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal;Mahato Shri Narahari;Pandey Saroj;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of airports in the country and the number out of them which are operational;
- (b) the expenditure incurred and losses suffered by the Government on maintenance of unused airports in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of unused airports made operational by the Government during the above period and the details of unused airports proposed to be made operational during the next three years;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to use the idle airports including code shares with regional carriers or operators of air taxis;
- (e) whether the Union Government has received requests from various State Governments to connect more and more cities in their respective States with air links;
- (f) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year along with the new routes on which the Government proposes to provide air connectivity; and (g) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which the services on the said routes are likely to be started?

Answer

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

- (a): There are 463 airports/airstrips in India including that of Airports Authority of India (AAI) (97), Defence (138), State Governments (161), Joint Venture (6), and Private Airports/ airstrips (61). Out of this 281 airports including 65 AAI Airports, 6 Joint Venture airports, 90 Defence airfields, 67 State Government airports and 53 Private airstrips are operational as per information available. There are also 26 Civil Enclaves which are owned, managed and maintained by AAI.
- (b): Details of expenditure incurred and losses suffered on maintenance of unused airports of AAI are given at Annexures I & II.
- (c) & (d): In the last three years, three airports of AAI, namely, Mysore in Karnataka, Jalgaon in Maharashtra and Pudduchery were made operational. Two unused airports, namely, Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh and Tezu in Arunachal Pradesh are presently taken up for operationalisation. Government of India has also accorded in principle approval for development of 15 Greenfield airports as given at Annexure III. AAI is regularly pursuing with various airlines to commence operations to some of the developed non-operational airports in the country,
- (e) & (f): Yes, Madam. Union Government has received requests from various State Government for development of airports/ air connectivity with more and more cities. The details in this regard are given at Annexure IV.
- (g): Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence to Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulations of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. 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 the Route Dispersal Guidelines.