

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2200
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2013
LOW COST AIR ASIA
Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has granted permission to a low cost model Air Asia India to fly in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been given to Air Asia India to start its operation in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has decided to construct 50 low-cost airports across the country which will help low-cost airlines in keeping pace with the low-cost flying;and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) and (b) M/s. Air Asia (India) Private Limited an Indian company has applied for grant of initial `No Objection Certificate` (NOC) to operate Scheduled Air Transport (Passenger) Services. This is a joint Venture company of Air Asia Investment Ltd. Malaysia (a wholly subsidiary of Air Asia Berhad, Malayasia) with Indian companies Telestra Tradeplace Pvt. Ltd. and Tata Sons Limited. The proposal is under consideration in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) No timeframe has been given to Air Asia to start its operations in the country. However, the company proposes to start operation within six month after grant of initial NOC.

(e) and (f) Government of India is in the process of identifying 15 low cost small airports for their development through feasibility studies to be carried out by Airports Authority of India. The locations are yet to be finalised.