

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5328
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015
DEVELOPMENT OF AIRPORTS
Chhewang Shri Thupstan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plans for extension of Kargil airport runway and expansion and modernisation of Leh airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal to increase the frequency of flights on Leh sector and to provide better facilities/more amenities to air passengers travelling on this sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b) : The Kargil Airport is presently in the custody of IAF. The Ministry of Defence has been tasked to undertake the development work including runway extension to meet the civilian transportation needs.

Additional requirement of 11.8 acres of land have also been conveyed to IAF for modernisation and expansion of Leh airport (Civil Enclave) Terminal Building and other infrastructure including car parking etc.

(c) & (d): Indian carriers are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government. However, it is upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. To ensure all feasible facilities/ courtesies at airports to the esteemed traveling public, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued instructions/Air Transport Circulars which are available on public domain on DGCA website.