Title: Need to take steps to dispose of the surplus and unusable land at Turbe by Air India.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the abnormal delay on the part of Air India to dispose of their surplus and unusable land at Turbe and the residential complex under construction at Nerul at Mumbai.

Though the proposal has been initiated ten years ago, till now no decision or action has been taken by Air India. CIDCO has been the trustees of the land/residential complex and because of the delay on the part of Air India, the liabilities of CIDCO are increasing.

In 1997-98, tenders were invited on behalf of Air India for the disposal of the land/residential complex and the BARC was chosen as the successful bidder. Later, it transpired that the BARC realised the unsuitability of the properties. In case the first bidder (BARC) has not yet made the payment, Air India should have asked CIDCO to accept the second highest bid.

With the shake up at the top level, Air India is in a mess both financially and otherwise. Air India would be wise to make use of the second bid, which offers a fair price for the property. This will also give a little financial relief to Air India to set its house in order to some extent.