

Amount, of investment made by AAI at the Begumpet Airport during the last three years was 2004-05—Rs. 19.24 crores, 2005-06—Rs. 22.86 crores and 2006-07—Rs. 8.78crores.

and (e) M/s GMR-led consortium of Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has pointed out that as per the Airport Infrastructure Policy, 1997, no Greenfield airport is to be allowed within an aerial distance of 150 Km. of an existing airport unless the existing airport is unable to meet the projected requirements of traffic. DIAL has prepared a Master Plan for the development of Indira Gandhi International Airport to cater to a demand of 100 million passengers in a phased manner till 2026. The Master Plan takes into account the catchment area in and around Delhi including Greater Noida which is within the 150 Km. radius.

Airport infrastructure in Kerala

1870. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether Government proposes to improve the infrastructure facilities at the airports in Kerala;

if so, the details thereof; and

the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) have undertaken various development works at Trivandrum and Calicut International airports. At Trivandrum International Airport, AAI have taken up development works like construction of state-of-the-art Integrated Terminal Building Complex with all modern amenities and facilities etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 245.58 crores.

At Calicut International Airport, AAI have taken up extension & modification of International and domestic Terminal Buildings and associated works, expansion of apron and strengthening of runway including profile correction for operation of B-747-400 type of aircraft etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 117.07 crores.

Upgradation of Rajkot airport

1871. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: SHRI
VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: SHRI
SURENDRA MOTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that Airports Authority of India (AAI) is to acquire land from railway authority for the purpose of upgradation of Rajkot airport;

whether the railway authority has agreed to give land to the AAI and by when will the land be transferred from railway authority;

whether it is also a fact that AAI has prepared the development plan of Rs. 60 crores for upgradation of Rajkot airport; and

(d) by when the AAI proposes to complete that work of upgradation of Rajkot airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRIPRAFUL PATEL):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Railway Authorities have agreed to transfer the land measuring 21 hectares (approx.) on lease for the development of Rajkot airport with the condition that Airports Authority of India (AAI) should rehabilitate the affected residential units and pay its market value. Railway Board has been requested to transfer the land at a concessional rate so that upgradation work remain viable. Upgradation works will be taken up depending upon the response of Indian Railways.

Overbooking of flights

1872. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI MATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether a large number of passengers of Air India's Mumbai-London-Chicago flights faced problems after they were offloaded as the plane was overbooked;

if so, the details thereof;

whether Air India's ticket booking system for a particular flight is not proper one, resulting inconvenience to several passengers who booked tickets in I'dvarice; and

if so, whether Government proposes to investigate the matter and take corrective steps so that the passengers are not harassed in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) 37 passengers had to be offloaded on flight AI-125 of 8th January, 2008 operating on Mumbai-London-Chicago sector due to overbooking.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. As per international industry practice, airlines overbook their flights to optimize utilization of capacity, as all passengers booked on a flight do not turn up at the airport. However, at times more passengers than expected do turn up and the airline has no option but to resort to offloading. However, for passengers holding tickets, paid in Indian Rupees, for destinations to USA, UK and Europe, compensation is granted in the form of a Miscellaneous Charges Order (MCO), which can be used for future transportation.

Study on aviation emission

1873. SHRI DHARAM PAL SUBHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a detailed and comprehensive aviation emission study in Civil Aviation Sector to gauge the level of harmful gases and environmental impact arising out of rapidly expanding aviation sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and