

airport because of security reasons and non-availability of customs and immigration facilities.

International Airport at Devanahalli, Bangalore

456. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared the International Airport Project at Devanahalli, near Bangalore;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to select co-investors and to start the above project;

(c) what are the facilities to be provided by the State Government;

(d) whether the existing HAL Airport will be closed for civilian operations after the opening of the proposed International Airport;

(e) if so, the amount so far spent on the existing HAL Airport for providing facilities to the passengers; and

(f) by when the proposed International Airport will become a reality?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The setting up of a new airport of international standards for Bangalore has been approved in principle.

(b) and (c) The project is proposed to be implemented through a Joint Venture Company (JVC) consisting of AAI, Karnataka State Investment and Industrial Development Corporation limited (KSIIDC) and a strategic partner. KSIIDC and AAI intend to have together not less than 26% equity holding in the proposed JVC. The balance 74% equity will be contributed by the selected private Joint Venture Partner.

(d) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(e) AAI has spent Rs. 21.93 crores for providing various facilities.

(f) Since the project is at preliminary stage, no time frame can be given at present.