

Resumption of services at Kadappa and Warangal Airports

283. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government had requested the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for resumption of services at Kadappa and Warangal airports and also to undertake site selection for locating Greenfield airports at Ramagundam in Karim Nagar Distt., Kothagundam in Khammam Distt., Tadepalligudam, Nizamabad, Ongole, Kurnool, Nellore and Adilabad;

(b) if so, the status of above said request; and

(c) by when these requests are likely to be materialised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) for the development of Kaddappa and Warangal Airports for operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft.

On the request of GoAP, AAI has carried out the feasibility study of the proposed sites for the development of 8 Regional Airports by GoAP at Nellore (Nellore District), Ongole (Prakasam District), Ramagundam (Karimnagar District), Kothagudem (Khamam District), Kurnool (Kurnool District), Tadepalligudem (West Godavari District-existing World War-11 air strip), Nizamabad (Nizamabad District) and Bobbili (Vizianagaram District). Report has been submitted to GoAP for taking further necessary action.

AAI has undertaken the construction of new Runway, Apron, link Taxi Track, and allied works for operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft at Kadappa Airport. The target date for completion of this work is August, 2009. Action for construction of New Modular Terminal Building for handling 100 passengers at a time, has been initiated.

AAI has requested Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for acquiring and handing over 438 acres of land for taking up the development works at Warangal Airport.

Modernization of Chandigarh Airport

284. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to modernize the Chandigarh airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also considering the introduction of international flights to London and Canada from that airport; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) At Chandigarh airport, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken construction of new integrated terminal building to cater for 400 passengers at a time which is likely to be completed by September, 2009.

In addition, AAI has planned for provision of aerobridge and realignment of apron, widening of approach road (subject to availability of land from Array). There is also a proposal to build an International Civil Air Terminal, for which Government of Punjab has provided the land, the cost of which is being shared equally between Government of Punjab and Government of Haryana.

(c) and (d) The designated airlines of U.K. are entitled to commence operation to/ from any point of call in India including Chandigarh as per their commercial judgment. Chandigarh is not available as a point of call for designated airlines of Canada. However, Indian Carriers are free to mount operations from Chandigarh to U.K. and Canada as per their commercial judgment.

Revival of National Birds Control Committee

285. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of increasing bird menace at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) Government has decided to revive the National Birds Control Committee;

(b) if so, the number of bird-hit-mishaps occurred at IGIA and other airports during the year 2008;

(c) whether the Central Government has asked all the State Governments to adopt responsive strategies to deal with birds around airports; and

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments and the steps taken to prepare a roadmap to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a)
Yes, Sir. A high power National Bird Control Committee (NBCC) has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation and having representatives from Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Director General of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India, Airline and Airport operators, Ornithologists etc. to effectively coordinate various measures for preventing bird hit incidents.

(b) There were 67 bird hit incidents reported at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi and 237 bird hit incidents reported from other airports during the year 2008.

(c) and (d) Airfield Environment Management Committees (AEMC) have been constituted at those airports where scheduled flights operate to identify the sources of bird attraction and take remedial steps for prevention of such incidents. AEMCs are headed by the Senior officers of the State Government. Various specific steps such as proper disposal of garbage, prevention of water