

(a) whether it is a fact that several new facilities have been provided at some of the metro airports last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these facilities were dedicated to the public within the prescribed schedule of time;

(c) the amount spent on the publicity and accommodation for the VIPs who participated in these programmes; and

(d) the ratio of this expenditure as compared to the expenses incurred on the renovation of services in the aviation sector?

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

(c) No public expenditure was incurred for dedicating these facilities.

(d) Does not arise.

Airports managed by AAI

279. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports managed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) at present;

(b) the number of airports which are operational;

(c) the number of airports which earned profit and made losses during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the performance of loss making airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 125 airports in the country including Civil Enclaves at Defence Airports managed by Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(b) 86 airports are operational.

(c) Out of 125 airports & civil enclaves managed by AAI, the number of profit making airports during last three years are 13 (2005-06), 14 (2006-07) and 15 (2007-08).

(d) The airports are being upgraded to accommodate large type of aircrafts and airlines are requested to make use the additional facilities provided. This will improve the realization of more revenue to AAI. AAI is also making efforts to increase the non-traffic revenues at airports by better exploitation of the commercial opportunities.

Charging of development fee by DIAL

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL) has levied passengers with the development fee on both domestic and international routes;

(b) if so, the reasons for charging this fee from the passengers for services that are not available;

(c) whether Government would intervene and withdraw charging the passengers by DIAL; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Due to reduced expectation from refundable security deposits as a means of finance, development fee (DF) on *ad-hoc* basis for 36 months has been levied to bridge the funding gap.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The completion of modernisation of IGI Airport, New Delhi, in a time bound manner, is of paramount importance specially in view of the Commonwealth Games 2010.

Demand of equity infusion by NACIL for expansion programme

281. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to states:

(a) whether the National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (NACIL) has demanded equity infusion of Rs.1231 crores to help its expansion programme and Rs.2750 crores in the form of a soft loan on easy terms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the country's flag carrier had registered a loss of over 4000 crores in 2008-09; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Aviation Company of India Limited submitted a proposal in October, 2008 for equity infusion of Rs.1,231 crores and provision of soft loan of Rs.2,750 crores, with an interest of approximately 5%, payable over 15 years.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per provisional estimates, NACIL is expected to register a loss of approximately Rs.5000 crores in 2008-09 largely due to high operating expenses, which have been compounded due to the present economic recession resulting in a drop of passengers, as also the high oil prices last year alongwith the servicing of debt on account of acquisition programme. NACIL has been advised to formulate a concrete proposal for equity infusion and provision of soft loans.

National Civil Aviation Policy

282. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether much awaited National Civil Aviation Policy is expected to be put on fast track;