THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Operationalisation of airport at Salem

1809. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to operationalise airport at Salem in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Salem airport in Tamil Nadu belongs to Airports Authority of India and is an operational airport. Presently no scheduled Airline is operating flights. Only Non-Scheduled flights operate at Salem airports.

(c) Does not arise.

Naming of international Airport at Amritsar

1810. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Legislative Assembly has passed a unanimous resolution to name the International Airport at Amritsar after Guru Ram Dass who founded the city;

(b) if so, whether Government would announce the formal changing of the name of the airport;

(c) whether the Punjab Legislative Assembly has also sent recommendation for naming the new airport coming at Mohali after Shaheed Bhagat Singh; and

(d) by when Government would announce the name of this airport though it is still under construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Punjab has sent a resolution passed by the Punjab Legislative Assembly for renaming the Amritsar International Airports as Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport and the new airport coming at Mohali (Chandigarh) after Shaheed - E - Azam Sardar Bhagat Singh International Airport .

The proposals are being examined by Government.

Upgradation of airports in Madhya Pradesh

†1811. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the total number of airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) how many airports, out of these, are proposed to be upgraded upto International standard and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to start flights to South India from Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are eight (8) airports in Madhya Pradesh, which belong to Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(b) Presently, AAI is upgrading three (3) airports namely Indore, Bhopal and Khajuraho airports to meet the international standards. Various upgradation works like extension of runway, construction of new expandable modular integrated terminal building and construction of new apron at these airports have been taken up by AAI.

(c) Domestic Airlines Operators are free to operate anywhere in India including airports in Madhya Pradesh depending upon commercial viability, traffic potential and available infrastructure at such airports.

Upgradation of safety regulations

1812. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that safety regulations of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) do not conform to international standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what measures Government has taken or proposes to take to upgrade the safety regulations upto international standard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Safety regulations in India are primarily based on Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) issued by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and are regularly amended by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) whenever new SARPs are introduced. In addition, DGCA from time to time reviews and amends its regulations as per international standards and aviation requirements of the country.

Protocol arrangements at airports

1813. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA: SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: