

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Union Government has approved the proposal to declare Tirupati airport as an International airport subject to the condition that the airport will be made operational only after requisite facilities have been put in place.

Out of total requirement of land measuring 718 acres, 293 acres has been handed over by the State Government to Airports Authority of India (AAI). Extension of runway and allied works is subject to handing over of balance land free from all encumbrances by the State Government. Presently, the project estimate is Rs. 174 crores and includes:—

- (i) Construction of new terminal building of cater 700 passengers (500 domestic + 200 international).
- (ii) Construction of new apron and link taxiway to park 4 nos. aircrafts (AB-321/AB-320/B-737-900W)

#### **Airports unsafe for landing**

870. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that some of the airports in the country are unsafe for landing; and

(b) if so, the names of those airports and what steps are being taken to ensure safe landing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) There is no aerodrome which can be termed as unsafe.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Non-availability of qualified technical personnel at DGCA**

871. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) has informed Government that India continues to remain in Category I of the FAA's International Aviation Safety Assessment Programme;

(b) whether the FAA has also raised its concern about availability of qualified technical personnel in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to place qualified technical personnel in DGCA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has informed that India not only continues to meet FAA's International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) category-I status but is also considered to be a Role Model for other nations in Asian aviation environment.