

(b) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

Utilisation of land possessed by AAI

779. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Airports Authority of India (AAI) currently possesses a total land bank of about 45,000 acre across various airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details of its utilisation for various purposes, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of lands, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has got approx. 50,709 acres of land (including Delhi and Mumbai airports).

(b) Airport land at all the States in the country are used for aviation purposes *i.e.* runway, apron, terminal building, administrative/office building, CNS facilities, car parking, staff quarters, oil companies, flying schools, airline companies, cargo, flight kitchens, hotels, fuel outlets, roads etc.

(c) Portions of land are required to be kept vacant for operational purposes, including future expansion of the airport infrastructure and city side development to generate revenue for AAI.

Renovation of Chennai domestic and international airports

780. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the deadline for completion of the renovation work at domestic and international terminals in Chennai;

(b) the total cost of this renovation;

(c) whether the work is going on as per schedule and what are the likely dates by which it will be completed;

(d) what will be the salient features of the airports once they are renovated; and

(e) what will be the increased capacity to handle traffic once renovation is completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The renovation work of the new Domestic and International Terminals at Chennai airport are likely to be completion as per schedule by May, 2011 and July, 2011 respectively. The original approved cost of modernization works at Chennai airport was Rs. 1808 Crores, but the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has made a proposal to revise the cost to Rs. 2015 Crores.

(d) The buildings are designed with glass and steel structure having large column free spans with aluminum profile sheet roofing and shall be provided with state-of-art facilities and services for passenger comfort and facilitation like in-line baggage handling system, FIDS, CCTV, travelators, modern signages, CUTE system and IT enabled control system to facilitate collaborative decision making among all the stake holders at the airport for efficient operations. Energy conservation features have also been adopted for meeting international standards.

(e) The existing domestic terminal at Chennai airport has an annual handling capacity of 6 million passengers. The new terminal is planned to have annual handling capacity of 10 million passengers. Thus a total capacity of 16 million passengers annually would be available for domestic operations. Similarly, the existing international terminal has an annual handling capacity of 3 million passengers and with the present augmentation, an additional capacity of 4 million passengers is being catered. Thus a total capacity of 7 million passengers would be available for international passengers.

Status of Bhubaneswar airport

781. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many passengers travel from Bhubaneswar airport daily on average during the last six months, month-wise;

(b) the number of flights operates from this airport and their destinations;

(c) whether there is any plan to introduce more flights from Bhubaneswar;

(d) the progress made so far, to make the Bhubaneswar airport an international airport and the reasons for delay in its progress; and

(e) the budget estimate for this purpose and expenditure made, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The average daily number of passengers handled at Bhubaneswar airport during the last six months (month-wise) *i.e.*, from April to September, 2010 is 2637, 2506, 3150, 2657, 2848 and 2517 respectively.