THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) M/s KGS Aranmula Airport Ltd. had submitted a proposal to the Government of India for grant of 'site clearance' for setting up of an International Airport at Aranmula-Pathanamthitta district in Kerala.
- (c) The proposal was examined in consultation with Ministry of Defence and Airports Authority of India (AAI) and was not agreed to for site clearance.
 - (d) Does not arise.

Grant for preparation of district level database

- *71. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:
- (a) whether there is a grant for preparing district level database to support State Planning Commission, which in turn can inform the national Planning Commission to decide on the allocation of funds to the local bodies;
 - (b) the kind of data that is available with the Zila Parishads for the purpose; and
 - (c) the steps the Ministry has taken to fill the information gap?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) and (b) Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Planning Commission do not operate any scheme for providing grants for preparation of district level database to support the State Planning Commissions.

However, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, the India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) for implementation from 2010-11. The objective of the ISSP is to strengthen the capacity of the State Statistical systems.

Besides, the 13th Finance Commission (13th FC) has recommended a grant of Rs.616 crore over its award period 2010-15, to further improve and strengthen the statistical system at district level.

The key statistical activities identified for taking up under the ISSP and 13th FC grants, which include filling up existing gaps in the availability of data, are given in Statement I and II respectively (See below).

The statistical data base generated at the district level is made available generally by the District Statistical Officer to the various user organisations including the Zilla Parishads.

(c) MoSPI has also undertaken a pilot scheme called the "Basic Statistics for Local Level Development (BSLLD)" to collect village level information in respect of the basic facilities and assets and other socio-economic indicators.

Statement-I

SI. No.	Key Statistical Activity
1	2
1	State Domestic Product Estimates
2	Estimate of Capital Formation and Savings
3	Estimates of District Domestic Product
4	Estimates of the contribution of local bodies
5	Data on major fiscal variables
6	Annual Survey of Industries
7	Index of Industrial Production
8	Crop area and production statistics
9	Wholesale Price Index
10:	Consumer Price Index
11	Health, morbidity, mortality and family welfare statistics
12	Education and literacy Statistics
12.A	Statistics on educational institutions
12.B	School enrolment data
13	Labor and employment statistics
13.A	Labor statistics
13.B	Employment statistics
14	Housing Statistics
15	Birth and death registration statistics and population
16	Electricity production and distribution statistics

1	2
17	Environment and forestry statistics
17.A	Forestry Statistics
17.B	Water Supply and Sanitation Statistics
18	Participation in surveys of the National Sample Survey Org.
19	Transport Statistics
19.A	Motor vehicle registration statistics
19 . B	Road statistics
19.C	Traffic accident statistics
19.D	Passenger traffic statistics
20	Statistics for local area planning

Statement-II

Objectives of the 13th Finance Commission (13th FC) grant for 'Improvement of Statistical Systems at State and District level'

- (i) Preparation and maintenance of Business Register at District Level.
- (ii) Preparation of Local Bodies Accounts by collecting data on receipts and payments of these bodies.
- (iii) Improvement of data in respect of Farm Activities.
- (iv) Pooling of Central and state sample data for generating district level parameters.
- (v) Providing network connectivity among districts and with State Headquarters.

Passport for Haj applicants-2011

- *72. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) the arrangements that have been made for issuing passports to the applicants for Haj 2011;
 - (b) the period within which these passports are being issued;