

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is purely an understanding between the concerned State Government and the respective steel investors. Government of India has no role to play in it.

However, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) has been set up in the Ministry which is vested with the job of monitoring and co-coordinating the issues concerning major steel investments.

Connectivity of Domestic and International Flights from Punjab

***128. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA :**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received from the State Government of Punjab to start direct domestic flights from Amritsar and Chandigarh to Nanded in Maharashtra and international flights from the upcoming airport at Mohali to provide better air connectivity for the Punjab diaspora visiting their home State; and

(b) if so, the action taking by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Punjab Government has requested to start flights to Nanded from Amritsar and Chandigarh.

At present, no scheduled domestic airline is operating air service from Amritsar/ Chandigarh to Nanded. However, the request of Punjab Government is under examination. Presently Mohali is not designated as an international airport.

Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air connectivity 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 while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines.

Reform in Institution of Lokayukta

***129. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA :**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the institution of Lokayukta is sorely in need of reform;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a need for a uniform law in order to make the institution more effective and strong in all the States;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is great focus on setting up a strong Lokpal at the Centre but there is no clamour for effective Lokayuktas in States; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is taking to rein in States to have effective and strong Lokayuktas in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (d) The institution of Lokayukta was established in many States following recommendations of the First Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) which visualized these institutions to be forum to the people to effectively ventilate the grievances, allegations and ensure independent and impartial justice against administrative excess while the Second ARC recommended that the jurisdiction of Lokayukta should extend to only cases involving corruption and they should not look into general public grievances.

2. The issue of uniform law for Lokayukta was deliberated in the special sitting of the Parliament on 27th August, 2011, and the "Sense of the House" on this issue stating, *inter alia*, the 'Establishment of Lokayuktas in the States' was communicated to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Committee found merit in the suggestion for a single comprehensive federal enactment dealing with Lokpal and State Lokayuktas. After deliberating on the recommendations of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Central Government introduced a comprehensive "The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011" on 22.12.2011 in Lok Sabha to establish Institution of Lokpal at Centre level and a uniform Institution of Lokayuktas in all the States. "The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011" has been passed by Lok Sabha on 27.12.2011 and is presently pending in Rajya Sabha.

Refusal of Illegal Migration by Bangladesh

*130. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh has officially refused to acknowledge the illegal migration of Bangladeshis to India;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to redress the issue in the bilateral understanding between both the countries;

(c) whether Government would make efforts to deal with the issue of illegal migration amicably by both sides; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?