

- (iii) ECB upto \$ USD 1 billion has been permitted for the airlines to meet their working capital requirement.

Greenfield airports in Maharashtra

167. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has awarded three greenfield airports in Maharashtra during the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the location of these airports;
- (c) whether five other Greenfield airports across the country would be bid out during 2013-14;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is also working on a regional connectivity policy; and
- (f) if so, the salient features of this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise
- (c) and (d) Bidding out of the greenfield airports is done by the respective airport developer.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

Operation of flights by Air Asia

168. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Malaysian low-cost airline, Air Asia is planning to start its operation in India as reported;

(b) whether it will be a joint venture with any Indian company or independent;

(c) if so, the name(s) of Indian companies who may collaborate with them;

(d) whether Air Asia will cover whole country or restricted to particular regions; and

(e) the details of the ancillary services the Air Asia is going to provide to the commuters in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) to (c) M/s. Air Asia (India) Private Limited an Indian company has applied for grant of initial NOC to operate Scheduled Air Transport (Passenger) Services. This is a joint Venture company of Air Asia Investment Ltd. Malaysia (a wholly subsidiary of Air Asia Berhad, Malaysia) with Indian companies Telestra Tradeplace Pvt. Ltd. and Tata Sons Limited.

(d) The application of the company is for operation all over India.

(e) Since the Air Asia has yet not started its operation, the services to be provided by the company cannot be assessed at this stage.

Impact of pilot strike on Air India

169. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pilots strike put Air India down in international skies;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) the impact of pilots strike on share of Air India in the market; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such strikes in future by pilots?