

granted "in-principle" approval for setting up of new airport at Aranmula, Kerala in Sept., 2012.

(c) As per Greenfield Airport Policy, 2008, Airport Authority of India (AAI), State Government or any other entity can submit application for setting up of a Greenfield airport in the prescribed proforma for consideration of Steering Committee headed by Secretary, Civil Aviation. The proposals are examined in consultation with AAI, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Defence and concerned State Governments.

(d) There is no prescribed minimum aerial distance between airports in the country. However, in case a Greenfield airport is proposed to be set up within 150 Km of an existing civilian airport, the impact on the existing airport is examined and such cases are decided by the Government on a case to case basis.

(e) The aerial distance of the proposed airport at Aranmula from the existing airports at Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin is approx. 130 Kms.

Development of airport in Tier-II and Tier-III cities

1247. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to develop airports in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, including North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these airports will be developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI), Private Companies or on Public Private Partnership (PPP) model; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Govt. of India has a vision to establish low cost small airports for providing connectivity to the tier-II and tier-III cities in the country including, North Eastern Region (NER) through Airports Authority of India.

Construction of Navi Mumbai International airport

†1248. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the construction of Navi Mumbai International Airport is now going to be started;

(b) whether all the constraints coming in the way have been removed; and

(c) if so, when and the manner in which these constraints were removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Government of Maharashtra (GoM) is in the process of issuing Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the selection of Concessionaire regarding construction of Navi Mumbai International Airport.

(b) and (c) Necessary clearances from Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) etc. have been obtained. Hon'ble Bombay High Court has permitted the clearance of mangroves in the Airport area. A high level meeting of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and representatives of the airport project affected persons was held on 11th November, 2013 wherein the Land acquisition model as well as Relief & Rehabilitation Policy was discussed and the same was agreed to. Besides, Hon'ble Prime Minister has also taken a meeting on 13th November, 2013 with all the stakeholders for removal of the bottlenecks with respect to speedy implementation of the Navi Mumbai airport project.

Resumption of flight operations at Tezpur and Lilabari airports in Assam

1249. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures are being taken to resume flight operations upto Tezpur and Lilabari airports in Assam in consideration of subsidy, relaxation, incentives etc. to the flight operators as these two airports along the Indo-Chinese Border are very much necessitated for the people residing on north bank of river Brahmaputra and Arunachal Pradesh in addition to defence purposes;

(b) if so, the time by when flight operation are likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the details of the remaining prospects, to make these two airports operative, as these two airports are identified as the most rural airports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL): (a) to (c) Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by airlines concerned on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route