

Development of new airport at Chakulia

*39. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is proposing to develop a new Airport at Chakulia in Jharkhand which is not an appropriate place as it is 30 km away from NH-33;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether AAI is aware that a big airstrip used in World War-II is available at Dhalbhumgarh which is very much suitable for establishment of an airport and is near to NH-33 that connects Odisha; and

(d) considering the above factors, reasons for AAI not changing its proposal for establishment of a new airport at Dhalbhumgarh instead of in Chakulia?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Dhalbhumgarh Airstrip belongs to Ministry of Defence and is around 15 Kms (air distance) from Chakulia. The existing Chakulia Airport belongs to Airports Authority of India (AAI) and is non-operational. At present, no request has been received from any airline operator indicating their willingness for commencement of flights to and from Chakulia Airport or Dhalbhumgarh Airstrip, nor any proposal received from State Government for development of Chakulia Airport or Dhalbhumgarh Airstrip.

Transfer of land to DIAL

*40. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether transfer of land to Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL) has been made on the basis of any physical survey;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to conduct any enquiry or audit;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government is aware that there are conflicts between the Development Agreement and the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reasons for Government allowing the private partner to treat handling services as non-aeronautical services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) had prepared a Master Plan (MP) for Delhi airport and submitted to the local bodies from time to time. The Master Plan was submitted to Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in 1997. This MP gave approximate areas and percentages of land identified for specific use. Subsequently, the Delhi Airport Land was transferred to M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (DIAL) based on the demised area map which has been enclosed in the Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) and the Lease Deed, entered into by AAI and M/s DIAL.

(b) and (c) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C and AG) has carried out and laid its Performance Audit Report No. 5 of 2012-13 in Parliament on 17.08.2012 on the subject Implementation of Public Private Partnership (PPP) - Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi.

(d) and (e) There is no conflict between OMDA which was signed in 2006 and the provisions of Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) Act, 2008. The provisions of OMDA and AERA Act have been harmonized through Section 13 (1) (a) (vi) of the AERA Act. As per this clause, AERA is required to give due consideration to the concessions granted by the Government under any agreement or memorandum while determining the aeronautical tariff for major airports.

(f) The Cargo and Ground Handling Services have always been shown as non-aeronautical services as per the Annual Account Statement of AAI. Accordingly, these services were included in the OMDA based on the legacy followed by AAI for its own airports.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Cash infusion in Air India

129. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Air India (AI) has requested Government to release the next instalment of cash infusion due to it under a ₹ 30,000 crore rescue plan;

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken by the Air India for revenue enhancement and cost cutting measures for the last two years?