

Upgradation of Patna Airport

*491. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jai Prakash Narayan International Airport at Patna has poor infrastructure, short runway, lack of proper facilities for baggage screening during security check-in and a waiting lounge which does not have capacity to take care of passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any fund has been allocated by the Ministry for the upgradation of the airport, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for the upgradation of this airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI) : (a) and (b) Patna Airport has a Runway of dimension 1938 metres X 45 metres suitable for A-320 type of aircraft with load restriction. The existing apron is suitable for parking four A-320 and one Dornier type of aircraft at a time with two link taxiways. The existing Terminal Building can handle 150 arriving and 150 departing passengers at a time. The statutory services of custom, immigration and health facilities for operation of limited International flights have been provided at the airport.

However, Patna airport is a constrained airport with no further scope for expansion and upgradation due to existence of obstacles and non-availability of land.

(c) Airports Authority India (AAI) has allocated ₹19.11 Crores in Twelfth Five Year Plan for upgradation of Patna Airport.

(d) Construction of new Terminal Building is not feasible due to land constraints at the airport. However, the modification works like increase in check-in-area, number of check-in-counters, security hold, baggage claim area and city side canopy etc. inside the Terminal Building are being planned to de-congest the Terminal Building to the extent possible.

Shortage of batteries for naval submarines

*492. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is severe shortage of batteries for our submarines;

(b) the details of type I, type II, etc. batteries for each of our submarines;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Navy is also facing shortage of submarines; and

(d) if so, the details of efforts his Ministry has made or going to make to procure type I, type II and other batteries and also new submarines for Navy?