

Greenfield airport in Jharkhand

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to set up a greenfield airport in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any proposal have been received from the State Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Government of India (GoI) has already granted 'site clearance' to the proposal of M/s TATA Steel Ltd. for setting up of a Greenfield airport in Jamshedpur in Jharkhand.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Development of no-frills airports in the country

952. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is going to develop five no-frills airports to provide air connectivity in under serviced areas of the country;
- (b) the name of the cities and towns in remote areas where the no-frills airports are proposed to be built;
- (c) the amount expected to be spent on each of such airports; and
- (d) by when the services are expected to be operational at these airports and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has identified five locations to develop no-frills airports during 2014-15. These five locations are: Hubli and Belgaum in Karnataka, Kishangarh in Rajasthan, Jharsuguda in Odisha and Tezu in Arunachal Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Hubli and Belgaum airports are already operational airports and have been identified for upgradation. The amount expected to be spent at Hubli is approx. ₹ 141 crore, Belgaum approx ₹ 142 crs, Tezu approx ₹ 97 crore and Kishangarh approx ₹ 160 crs. Airports Authority of India has not been able to work out the estimated cost for Jharsuguda airport for want of land from State Government of Orissa. The timelines for construction of airports depend upon many factors like availability of requisite land, mandatory regulatory clearances, etc.

New flight services to other countries

†953. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to start new flight services to some other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of countries which have been approached in this regard; and
- (d) the details of profit/loss accrued to Air India as on date during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The decision to commence new services on international routes is based on the commercial judgement of the carriers, and availability of bilateral rights.

(d) Air India suffered a loss of ₹7559.74 crore in 2011-12, ₹5490.16 crore in 2012-13 and ₹5388.82 crore in 2013-14 (provisional).

Stray animals on the runway

954. SHRI D.K UPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the menace of stray animals on the runways in various airports of the country is growing as reported in media recently;
- (b) if so, the details of number of such incidents happened during the last few years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.