

Development of Belora Airport at Amravati in Maharashtra

981. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the proposal for development of Belora Airport at Amravati, pending with the Ministry;
- (b) whether the proposal has been considered or accepted; and
- (c) if not, the time-frame within which a decision is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Government of India (GoI), Ministry of Civil Aviation has received a proposal from Maharashtra Airport Development Company Limited (MADC) for grant of Site Clearance for Belora Airport, Amravati, Maharashtra. As per the Greenfield Airport Policy, set up for setting up of Greenfield Airports in the country, the proposal was sent to Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for their comments. MADC has not furnished the compliance report on the observations of AAI. Hence, no time-frame can be envisaged at this stage.

Technical glitches in Air India's Dreamliner aircraft

982. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the passengers of an Air India Kolkata-Delhi flight (AI-701) had a Narrowing time after it was delayed by 13 hours very recently;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the problem was found to be a technical snag in a Boeing-787 Dreamliner aircraft of the Air India fleet that befuddled its technicians, who took a long time to rectify it; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Air India is continuously taking steps to minimise such incidents but it often faces technical glitches in Dreamliner aircraft and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) VT-ANN operating AI 701 on 20th March, 2016 was withdrawn due to technical snag of electrical generation systems. Several components had to be replaced which were not available at Kolkata. The components had to be flown from Mumbai/Delhi base. A relief aircraft VT-PPO (A-321) was operated to fly the passengers to Delhi.

(b) No, Sir. The delay was due to non-availability of spares in Kolkata. The spares were arranged from Mumbai/Delhi base for replacements/rectification.