

Second airport in the NCR

149. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has given -approval for a second airport in the NCR;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per existing rule there should not be another airport within 150 kms. area;

(c) if so, how Government is planning to amend the rule to take up the second airport; and

(d) if the rule is relaxed, will it be applicable to all places including Hyderabad airport since GMR is objecting second airport at Warangal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has granted the site clearance for setting up of a Greenfield Airport near Bhiwadi, District Alwar, Rajasthan subject to some conditions in November-2015. However, any new Greenfield Airport requires two stage clearances *i.e.* 'Site Clearance' and 'in-principle' approval. In case of proposed airport of Bhiwadi, the site "clearance has been granted and further development would depend on preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), its economic viability and financial closure subject to the 'in-principle' approval.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As per Greenfield Airport Policy, 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 would be examined and such cases would be decided by the Government on a case to case basis.

(d) However, as per the Concession Agreement between Government of India (GoI) and Hyderabad International Airport Limited, no new or existing airport shall be permitted by GoI to be developed as, or improved or upgraded into, an international airport within an aerial distance of 150 kms of the airport before the 25th anniversary of the airport opening date.

Levy of taxes on large airlines

150. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to levy more User Development Fees (UDF) at airports under the hybrid-till mechanism;

(b) whether Government plans to levy taxes on large airlines to compensate for the losses of small distance flights services;

(c) whether Government will set at rest apprehensions that airline companies will treat their share of the extra cost as a pass through to passengers, both making air travel costlier; and

(d) what is criterion for selection of cities under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No, Sir. As per National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016 available on the portal of the Ministry, to ensure uniformity and level playing field across various airport operators, future tariffs at all airports will be calculated on a 'hybrid till' basis, unless otherwise specified for any project being bid out in future. It is also provided that 30% of non-aeronautical revenue will be used to cross-subsidise aeronautical charges.

(b) and (c) As per National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016 in order to operationalize Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), Regional Community Fund will be created through levy per departure on all domestic routes, other than CatII/IIA routes, RCS routes and small aircraft below 80 seats irrespective of routes.

(d) Selection of cities under RCS to be 'demand driven', depending on firm demand from airline operators and where State Government agrees to provide various concession envisaged in the Policy.

Cap on airfares under regional connectivity scheme

151. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed a cap on airfares at ₹ 2500 for an hour's flight as part of its regional connectivity scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the airlines will recover the possible losses incurred on such routes by way of viability gap funding from the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) The Government has approved National Civil Aviation Policy 2016 which *inter-alia* envisages Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS). The scheme will target an indicative airfare of ₹ 2500 per passenger approximately, indexed to inflation, for a significant part of the capacity of the aircraft for a distance