

(c) and (d) Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted 'in principle' approval for setting up of 20 Greenfield Airports across the country namely Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Sindhudurg and Shirdi in Maharashtra, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hassan and Shimoga in Karnataka, Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Datia in Madhya Pradesh, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kushinagar and Noida in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Hirasar in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry and Dagadarthi, Bhogapuram and Oravakal in Andhra Pradesh. Out of these 20 airports, four Greenfield airports have been recently inaugurated namely Durgapur in West Bengal, Shirdi in Maharashtra, Pakyong in Sikkim and Kannur in Kerala. Increasing the passenger capacity at existing airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by AAI and concerned private operators from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand/willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports.

Upgradation of airports

2263. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans for upgradation of a few and selective airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons/criteria for selecting a few airports only;

(c) the steps being taken by AAI to upgrade the airports to meet the growing demand and future challenges; and

(d) the time by when the upgradation work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Upgradation of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and concerned private operators from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand/willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports. To meet the demand, AAI has embarked upon a Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) plan of ₹ 25,000 crores in next 4-5 years for development/modernisation/upgradation of terminal buildings of AAI airports in the country including Calicut in Kerala, Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Agartala in Tripura, Guwahati in Assam, Tiruchirapalli and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, Agra and Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, Dehradun in Uttarakhand, Jaipur in Rajasthan, Leh and Srinagar in Jammu

and Kashmir, Kolhapur and Pune in Maharashtra, Patna in Bihar, Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh. Concerned private operators at Delhi and Bengaluru airports have proposed to increase the overall capacity of the airports by way of expansion and upgradation of Terminal-I, Construction of 4th runway and Parallel Taxi Track at Delhi Airport and construction of 2nd Terminal Building and new runway at Bengaluru Airport. The timeline for construction of airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc. by the individual developer, which involve a lengthy and time consuming process.

Privatisation of airports

2264. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is in the process of privatisation of airports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the response for the privatisation of airports;
- (d) the details of the airports privatised till date; and
- (e) the details of the procedure adopted for privatisation of airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to lease out the six airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) viz. Thiruvananthapuram, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow and Mangaluru for operation, management and development through Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model. AAI has issued the Request for Proposal (RFP) in this regard on 14.12.2018. Last date for submission of bids is 14.02.2019.

- (c) to (e) Question does not arise.

Categorizing SEZs under infrastructure sector

2265. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal with Government to categorise Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under infrastructure sector;