

Persons were released from the Detention Centres on the basis of opinion given by the Foreigners Tribunals or Higher Courts or for repatriation to their native Country.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Setting up water aerodromes in the country

283. SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government considers granting approval for setting up water aerodromes in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the places where the water aerodromes are to be set up;
- (d) the details of criteria laid down in choosing the places where these water aerodromes would be developed;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the development of water aerodrome will affect the bio-diversity; and
- (f) if so, what measures have been taken to save bio-diversity of such places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) version 3, Airports Authority of India (AAI), the implementing agency has awarded proposals for waterdromes namely, Guwahati River Front, Nagarjuna Sagar, Sabarmati River Front, Shatrunjay Dam, Statue of Unity and Umrangso Reservoir.

(d) Initially, still water bodies like lakes, reservoirs, dams and rivers (avoiding rainy season) have been considered.

(e) and (f) Seaplane operations are done in an environment friendly manner, and causes no environmental harm to the water ecosystem and its flora and fauna.

Status of Bhogapuram Airport in Andhra Pradesh

284. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the matter of development of Bhogapuram Airport in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the present status of the project and reasons for the delay in construction of the airport; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for early construction of the airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Bhogapuram Airport in the State of Andhra Pradesh belongs to Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) and based on the request of GoAP, Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation granted 'site clearance' approval and 'in principle' approval to Bhogapuram International Airport Corporation Limited (BIACL) for setting up of Bhogapuram International Greenfield Airport for public use in Vizianagaram District, near Visakhapatnam *vide* certificate dated 27.01.2016 and 07.10.2016 respectively. GoAP intends to develop the Airport under PPP and had floated tenders in which Airports Authority of India (AAI) was the preferred bidder with highest Revenue share. However, GoAP *suo-moto* cancelled the bidding process leading to delay in construction of the airport. As Bhogapuram Airport belongs to GoAP, it is the responsibility of State Government to expedite the construction of the airport.

Number of airports under AAI in Rajasthan

†285. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports under Airports Authority of India (AAI) in Rajasthan and status of their present capacity and details of action plans for their expansion; and

(b) the places to which air services would commence under trilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among the Ministry and AAI by Government of Rajasthan and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) owns and manages four airports namely Jaipur, Kishangarh, Kota and Udaipur and three Civil Enclaves (CE) at Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur in Rajasthan. Expansion of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by AAI 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. Jaipur, Kishangarh, Kota, Udaipur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur airports/CE are capable of handling 720, 150, 50, 675, 100, 400 and 300 Peak Hour Passengers (PHP) respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.