

Progress of Bhogapuram Airport in Andhra Pradesh

1901. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made so far in setting up of airport at Bhogapuram in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of fund released so far for setting up/creating facilities at Bhogapuram Airport in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Government proposes to introduce 'Digi Yatra' at the Bhogapuram Airport;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Bhogapuram Airport in the State of Andhra Pradesh belongs to Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP). Based on the request of GoAP, Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation granted clearance in 2016 to M/s Bhogapuram International Airport Corporation Limited (BIACL) for setting up of Bhogapuram International Greenfield Airport for public use. GoAP intends to develop the Airport under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model and had floated tenders in 2018 for identifying the private partner.

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that they have taken a loan for an amount of ₹ 854 crore for the purpose of land acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R and R) works with Government guarantee. Further capital expenditure is the responsibility of the Concessionaire.

(c) to (e) The project is at bidding stage. Hence, it is not possible to comment on the same at this stage.

Shortage of Staff in BCAS

1902. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of total officers and staff in payroll of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS);

(b) the number of staff borrowed by private airlines and manpower agencies from BCAS;

(c) whether Government is aware of acute shortage of staff in BCAS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measure adopted by Government to reduce such shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) As on 01.07.2019, 290 officers and staff are on the payroll of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

(b) No staff has been borrowed from BCAS.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of vacancy in BCAS as on 01.07.2019, are given as under:—

Group A — 43

Group B — 207

Group C — 52

(e) Ministry has sanctioned 590 posts in BCAS. Further, BCAS has initiated the process for filling up of these posts.

Need for capital infusion in airlines

1903. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all airlines in the country have reported losses and require a massive capital infusion;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the situation has adversely affected Government's flagship UDAN scheme; and

(d) if so, what measures are being contemplated by Government so that the scheme does not fail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) As per the information made available by the Scheduled Indian Carriers, the details regarding the financial performance for last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*). The high cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), the global economic slow down, low yields due to intense competition are some reasons that have contributed to the widening gap between