

Role of AAI in privatisation of airports

3523. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to lease out some major airports to private players, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has allocated several thousand crores recently for expansion;

(c) what would be the role of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in privatisation of operation of these airports and the extent to which Government would gain financially;

(d) whether out of the group selected for operation, some non metro airports have already been operating successfully, including Guwahati so far; and

(e) if so, whether the performance have been found to be satisfactory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India accorded 'In-principle' approval for leasing of six airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) viz. Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operation, Management and Development through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Accordingly, Airports Authority of India floated a Global Tender for inviting bids and identified the highest bidder. Based on the same, AAI has issued the Letter of Award for leasing Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports to Adam Enterprises Limited.

(b) The expansion and development of infrastructure facilities at the airports is a continuous process and is undertaken based on the operational requirements for safety of aircraft operation and demand from airlines, depending upon the availability of land and viability, as well as other facilities with reference to intended aircraft operations. AAI has taken up development programmes amounting to spend around ₹ 25,000 crore in the next 4-5 years, to meet the requirements of Air Traffic which includes expansions/modification of existing terminal, new terminals, expansions/strengthening of existing runways, aprons, Air Navigation Services (ANS) works like control tower, technical block at AAI Airports.

(c) AAI would continue to provide Air Navigation Services (ANS) (being statutory function) and the revenue from ANS services will continue to be received by AAI. Further, throughout the concession period AAI will monitor the performance of

the concessionaire in respect of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as per provisions of the Concession Agreement. The PPP project at these airports will result in enhanced revenues to the AAI by way of upfront payment towards reimbursement of unrealized investments so far made by AAI. Besides, AAI will receive per passenger fee from the Concessionaire as per terms of the Concession Agreement.

(d) and (e) All six airports undertaken for PPP project are located in non-metro cities and are being successfully operated by AAL. However, owing to the growth in passenger traffic over the past few years these airports are nearing saturation and there is a requirement of capacity expansion in advance which requires further capital investment. The proposed PPP model is targeted towards meeting the fund requirement for capacity expansion from the private sector. In addition, these projects will also bring efficiency in delivery of services, expertise, enterprise and professionalism apart from harnessing the needed investments in the public sector and free up for use in priority areas.

Militancy in Jammu and Kashmir

3524. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of increase in militancy in Jammu and Kashmir during last three years;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to tackle militancy in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (c) the results of the steps taken; and
- (d) future plans to control militancy in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY) : (a) to (d) The security situation in the State has witnessed an improvement in the first half of this year over the corresponding period of 2018. Net infiltration has reduced by 43% and local recruitment has declined by 40%. Terrorist initiated incidents have declined by 28%. Actions initiated by the security forces witnessed an increase of 59% and have resulted in 22% increase in neutralization of terrorists.

The Government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism and has taken various measures, such as strengthening of security apparatus, strict enforcement of law against anti-national elements, intensified cordon and search