

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) to (c) Development 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. State Governments approach Government of India for setting up or operationalization of airports. Recently, various requests have been received from different State Governments including Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh etc. The requests received from State Governments are examined and action is taken based on the feasibility and participation of State Governments.

Enhancing the services of AAI

1771. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) what initiatives have been undertaken by Government during last three years for the development of Airports Authority of India (AAI);

(b) whether Government has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/ agreement with foreign companies to enhance the services of AAI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) being a Schedule 'A' category 1 Miniratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) has inbuilt autonomy to take up the development work in the overall commercial interest of the organization. It has the power to incur capital expenditure (CAPEX) on new projects, modernization, purchase of equipment etc., without Government approval, to the tune of ₹ 500 crore or equal to Net worth, whichever is less. AAI is self-sustaining Organisation and the CAPEX and operational expenditure (OPEX) requirements are met through Internal Resources and AAI is not dependent on Gross Budgetary support from the Government. During last three years, AAI has operationalised 17 number of airports and has spent ₹ 8855.82 crore on development and other associated works at its various airports across the country. Besides, Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 08.11.2018 had

accorded "In-principle" approval for leasing out six airports of AAI viz. Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for operation, management and development through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to improve efficiency in service delivery and to bring in expertise, enterprise and professionalism at these airports, apart from bringing the needed investments in the sector.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. AAI has entered into an agreement with United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) to develop a comprehensive Communication, Navigation and Surveillance/Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) roadmap for next 10 years.

Air Seva App/portal

1772. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from the Indian passengers on Air Seva App/ portal since its inception to till date;

(b) whether Government has received number of suggestions to make the necessary changes in the passenger rights charter;

(c) if so, whether Government is planning to revised the passenger rights charter with the suggestions received from passengers and to make Indian civil aviation more passenger friendly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) As on 29.11.2019, 24596 complaints have been received on Air Sewa web portal since its inception.

(b) to (d) Passenger Charter of Rights was prepared after consultations with the stakeholders and was released in February, 2019. The Charter is available in the public domain on the official website of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The revision of the Passenger Charter of Rights as per the extant rules and guidelines is an ongoing process.

Air service agreements

1773. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: