

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 986

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th February 2021)

STATUS OF DHALBHUMGARH AIRPORT JHARKHAND

986. SHRI SAMIR ORAON

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the construction of proposed Dhalbhumgarh airport, Jharkhand (NH-33) is pending due to non-clearance by the Forest Departments, if so, the details of current status thereof; and**
- (b) whether it is a fact that due to the said airport site being declared as an 'Elephant Corridor Area' by the Forest Department, an objection has been raised for the construction of same, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

(a) & (b): The development of Dhalbhumgarh airport in Jharkhand for fair weather operations of ATR-72 type of aircraft has been undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) at a cost of Rs.99.36 Crore. As per the Memorandum of Understanding signed between AAI and the State Government of Jharkhand, forest clearance is being pursued by the State Government of Jharkhand.

The State Government of Jharkhand has initiated compliance of the observations made by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and the queries/observations of PCCF have no mention related to the site being declared as Elephant Corridor Area. AAI has been advised by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) either to explore an alternate site or consult and obtain consent of Chief Wildlife Warden of State for further consideration of the extent proposal. Accordingly, AAI has initiated action for obtaining the consent of the Chief Wildlife Warden of State as advised by EAC.
