

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 175
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th August 2021)

PLAN TO MAKE INDIA A GLOBAL FLYING TRAINING HUB

*175. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to make India a global flying training hub and thereby preventing aspiring commercial pilots from going abroad for training
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has announced setting up of new institutes across the country
- (c) if so, the names of those airports selected for this purpose
- (d) the parameters for choosing these airports and
- (e) the measures to be taken to ensure that these institutes are at par with top Flying Training Organisations from across the world in terms of fleet, infrastructure and instructors?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 175 REGARDING PLAN TO MAKE INDIA A GLOBAL FLYING TRAINING HUB

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The airports initially selected by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for setting up new Flying Training Organisations (FTO) were: Belagavi (Karnataka), Jalgaon (Maharashtra), Kalaburgi (Karnataka), Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh), Lilabari (Assam) and Salem Airport (Tamil Nadu).

The airports were selected by a committee constituted by the AAI Board under the chairmanship of Air Chief Marshal Fali Major (Retd.) taking into consideration the following parameters:

- (i) the existing AAI infrastructure and facilities at these airfields
- (ii) terrain suitability for safe flying operations
- (iii) local weather pattern
- (iv) air traffic density
- (v) airspace availability and
- (vi) scope for further development of these airfields for training flights.

Due to a stay order by the Hon'ble Madras High Court, Salem Airport was dropped from the list of selected airports for which the bid process was conducted.

The bid process has been successfully concluded and agreements have been executed between AAI and the winning bidders in respect of eight FTOs to be established at five AAI airports namely - Belagavi, Jalgaon, Kalaburgi, Khajuraho and Lilabari.

(e) FTOs are approved, monitored and regulated by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). DGCA does so as per global standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). DGCA conducts annual surveillance of all the FTOs and surprise checks to ensure that laid down standards in terms of safety, fleet, infrastructure and instructors are complied with on a regular basis.
