

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 3535
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th April 2022)**

BHOGAPURAM AND TIRUPATI AIRPORTS

3535. **SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI**
 SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI

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

- (a) the progress on approval for the renewal of site clearances of the proposed greenfield international airport at Bhogapuram, Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether there is a plan to allocate funds for the airport at Bhogapuram, out of the planned investment of Rs. 36,000 crore by Government for development of new greenfield airports across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether steps have been taken to identify and expand the commercial air traffic routes to meet the growing footfall of the Tirupati Airport; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c): As per the Greenfield Airports Policy, two stage approvals i.e. 'site clearance' followed by 'in-principle approval' are granted to a project proponent for development of any new Greenfield Airport. Subsequent to the grant of the first stage approval, i.e. 'site clearance', second stage approval, i.e. 'in-principle approval' has also been granted for development of a Greenfield Airport at Bhogapuram in Andhra Pradesh. As such, renewal of 'site clearance' approval is not applicable for the airport project. The responsibility of implementation of airport project including funding of the project rests with the project proponent.

(d) & (e): After the repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and networks they wish to operate across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and their commercial viability, in compliance with the extant guidelines in this regard.

Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. Under this scheme, 10 routes have been awarded connecting Tirupati to various destinations, out of which 08 routes have been operationalized. At present, Tirupati is connected to Belgaum, Bengaluru, Hubli, Hyderabad, Kalaburagi, Kolhapur, Mumbai, Madurai, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam.
