

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1442
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th August 2024)**

**PRIVATISATION OF BIJU PATNAIK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN
BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA**

1442. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to privatise Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar, Odisha;
- (b) if so, the reasons for considering privatisation and the expected benefits;
- (c) the timeline and process for the privatization, if proposed; and
- (d) whether there have been consultations with stakeholders, including the State Government and airport staff, and the feedback received for the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): As per National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP), 25 airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI), including Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar, have been earmarked for leasing over the years 2022 to 2025.

Airports are leased out for their better management, utilising private sector efficiency and investment. States and passengers are the ultimate beneficiary of enhanced airport infrastructure and facilities created by private partner, who operates, manages and develops the leased airport under PPP. Airports have emerged as a nucleus of economic activities and have multiplier effect on the economy of the State. The revenue received by AAI from the leased airports is also utilised for the development of airport infrastructure across the country.

(d): In accordance with the provisions of Section 12A of AAI Act, 1994 (as amended in 2003), Airports Authority of India (AAI), with the approval of the Government of India, may make a lease of the premises of an airport (including buildings and structures thereon and appertaining thereto) to carry out some of its functions, in the public interest or in the interest of better management of airports. The observations of State Governments concerned, if any, are considered on merit during the transaction process for PPP of airports.