

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 32
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd February 2025)

NEW AIRPORTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

32. SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA

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

- (a) whether Government is proposing new airports in Andhra Pradesh in the next five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Dagadarthi Greenfield airport is approved by Government for establishing in SPS Nellore district;
- (d) if so, whether the interest of expression is called for identifying executing agency;
- (e) whether budget is provided for land acquisition for the Dagadarthi Greenfield airport; and
- (f) progress of the Dagadarthi Greenfield airport?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (f): Government of India (GoI) has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008 for development of new Greenfield airports in the country. As per the policy, if any Airport developer including the State Government desires to develop an airport, they are required to identify a suitable site and get the Pre-feasibility Study conducted for construction of airport and submit a proposal to the Central Government for 'Site Clearance' followed by 'In-Principle' approval.

Government of India has granted 'In-Principle' approval in 2016 for construction of 3 Greenfield airports in the State of Andhra Pradesh viz. Orvakal (Kurnool), Dagadarthi (Nellore) and Bhogapuram. Andhra Pradesh Airport Development Corporation Limited (APADCL) has undertaken the development of all three airport projects. Orvakal (Kurnool) Greenfield Airport has been operationalised in 2021. Construction work at Bhogapuram Greenfield airport project under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode is also progressing rapidly.

As regards Dagadarthi airport, Concession agreement was executed between APADCL and Nellore International Airport Private Limited (NIAL) in 2018, which was later terminated by Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP). As per Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008, further necessary action for execution of the Nellore Airport project including engaging the new airport developer, land acquisition, availability of mandatory Clearances, financing of the project etc. rests with GoAP/APADCL.

GoAP has identified six sites viz., Kuppam, Srikakulam, Tuni-Annavaram, Tadepalligudem Nagarjun Sagar and Ongole for development of Greenfield Airports. On the request of State Government, AAI has conducted Pre-feasibility study for proposed airport sites at Kuppam, Srikakulam, Nagarjun Sagar and Ongole. Ministry of Civil Aviation has not received any proposal from GoAP seeking Site Clearance for aforesaid proposed sites, as per GFA Policy.
