

[26 November. 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) if so, what are the details of the new policy and the impact it would have on the public sector airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The draft Civil Aviation Policy is being finalised in consultation with various Ministries and Departments.

**Airlink between historical places in Tamil Nadu**

619. SHRI S. S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government are aware of historical importance of Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga, Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether Government will come forward to provide Airlink in between these historical places; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government to airlink these places. However, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli and Trivandrum airports, which are nearest to Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga and Thanjavur respectively are well connected by Indian Airlines/Jet Airways flights.

**Regular flights between Srinagar, Leh and Kargil**

620. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an airport has been constructed at Kargil which lies out of use for months together every year;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce regular flights between Srinagar, Leh and Kargil, if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether there are no arrangements for supply of provisions and consumer goods for employees maintaining the Kargil airport and the infrastructure thereof and if so, the steps being taken to make regular supplies of consumer goods available to them?