GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1302 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14th March 2017)

REJECTION OF OPEN SKY OFFER BY NEPAL

1302. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Nepal has rejected India's open sky offer to allow operation of unlimited flights between the two nations, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that they rejected the offer saying that it was not yet ready for the open sky agreement and it might consider the proposal two years later; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Nepal has requested for developing new air routes and air entry points at Janakpur, Bhairahawa and Nepalgunj?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) and (b): In the recently concluded bilateral civil aviation talks Nepal welcomed the Indian proposal of Open Skies. However, they informed that they are in the process of upgrading existing international airport and constructing new international airports infrastructure and their Civil Aviation Policy is also being revised. Hence they are not ready to accept the Open Skies proposal at this stage.

(c): Yes Sir.