

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 162
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12th December 2018)

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FROM VIJAYAWADA AND TIRUPATI

162. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that inspite of handing over of 698 acres of land at Vijayawada and 732 acres of land at Tirupati by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to Airports Authority of India (AAI), no step has been taken by the Central Government so far to operate international flights from Vijayawada and Tirupati airports;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any tentative day to operate international flights from Vijayawada and Tirupati airports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Government of India has declared Tirupati and Vijayawada Airports as International Airports w.e.f 12.06.2017 and 01.08.2017 respectively. A new Integrated Terminal Building at Tirupati Airport, having 700 peak hour passengers capacity at a cost of Rs. 174 Crores, has been commissioned on 21.11.2015 for simultaneous operation of international and domestic flights. Further, a new Interim Terminal Building at Vijayawada Airport, with 500 peak hour passengers capacity at a cost of Rs. 161.35 Crores, has been completed in January, 2017.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e): International flight operations from Vijayawada Airport have commenced w.e.f. 04 December, 2018. As far as matter of operations of international flights from Tirupati Airport is concerned, Indian carriers are free to mount air services from any point in India to foreign destinations as per the respective bilateral air service agreements. However, actual operations are guided by traffic demand and commercial judgment of the airlines.
