

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 965
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2018)

UPGRADATION OF BAGDOGRA AIRPORT

965. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI

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

- (a) whether steps are being taken to upgrade Bagdogra airport which is the gateway to Darjeeling, North Bengal and Bhutan; and
(b) whether any policy and programme has been taken to increase the frequency of flights due to steady rise in demand from major cities such as Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, etc.?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Bagdogra Airport belongs to Indian Air Force (IAF) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave. Development/upgradation of airports is a continuous process which is undertaken by AAI based on the operational demand, traffic projections, availability of land etc. For the upgradation of Bagdogra Airport, AAI has projected a land requirement of 104 acres (approx.) to the State Govt. of West Bengal.

(b): Flight operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) issued by the Government. It is upto the airline operators to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.
