

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 991  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018)

**CONSTRUCTION OF BHOGAPURAM AIRPORT IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

991. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY

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

- (a): the status of construction of Bhogapuram airport in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b): what is the response of Government to the statement of Airports Authority of India (AAI) that it would not suspend air operations from Visakhapatnam even after Bhogapuram airport comes into operation;
- (c): what are the reasons that AAI has written a letter to the Andhra Pradesh Airport Development Corporation Ltd., asking it to mention in the tender documents that AAI would continue its flight operations from Visakhapatnam even after Bhogapuram airport comes into operation; and
- (d): if so, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

- (a): Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation granted 'in principle' approval to Bhogapuram International Airport Corporation Limited (BIACL) now Andhra Pradesh Airport Development Corporation Limited (APADCL) for setting up of Bhogapuram International Greenfield Airport for public use in Vizianagaram District, near Visakhapatnam vide certificate dated 07.10.2016. As per the Greenfield Airports Policy, the project implementation is the sole responsibility of the airport developer. Moreover, construction of airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc. by the individual developer, which involve a lengthy and time consuming process.
- (b) to (d): Steering Committee constituted for setting up of new greenfield airport in its meeting held on 26.11.2018, recommended non-closure of Visakhapatnam airport even after operationalization of Bhogapuram airport. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has written a letter to APADCL that AAI would continue its operations from Visakhapatnam even after Bhogapuram comes into operation due to the cost implications of AAI for closing down the operating major airport and investments undertaken at Visakhapatnam Airport to meet the current traffic requirements.

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