

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1298
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2022
GREENFIELD AIRPORT AT BHOGAPURAM

1298. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO

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

(a) the dates on which 'site clearance' and 'in-principle' clearance were given for the construction of a Greenfield airport at Bhogapuram near Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether there is any matter still pending with Government;

(c) the details of the proposed airport in terms of area, terminals, investment etc., submitted by the State Government/airport developer;

(d) the proposed timeframe for the construction of the airport;

(e) whether Government will continue to operate the present Visakhapatnam airport for civilian travel on scheduled airlines, details thereof; and

(f) if not, infrastructure and land available at the present airport and alternative purposes for which it can be used?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) & (b):The Government of India (GoI) granted 'Site Clearance' to Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) in January, 2016 for development of Bhogapuram Greenfield airport. Subsequently, 'In-Principle' approval for the project was given by GoI to GoAP in October,2016.

GoAP will mutate entire 372.72 acres land in possession of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in Vizag Civil Enclave in the name of AAI. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has to be signed between GoI and

PPP partner in respect of sovereign functions at proposed Bhogapuram airport.

(c): GoAP has taken up the development of Bhogapuram airport in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. As per the Concession Agreement, the Phase I development of the airport would be able to cater to 6 million passengers per annum. The land required for development of airport is approximately 2203 acres. The initial estimated cost for development of airport was approximately Rs. 2500 crore during submission of 'In-Principle' application and revised cost of development of airport needs to be firmed up by GoAP and the Concessionaire.

(d): The responsibility of implementation of airport projects including funding of the projects rests with the concerned airport developer including the respective State Government (in case the State Government is the project proponent). The timeline for completion of the airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure etc.

(e) and (f): 'Site Clearance' approval for the Bhogapuram Greenfield airport was given by GoI to GoAP with a provision that scheduled commercial operations at the Civil Enclave at the existing Vizag Naval airfield will be stopped for a period of 30 years, once the operations of Greenfield Airport at Bhogapuram starts. Thereafter, it is upto AAI to restart scheduled commercial operations at the existing Vizag airport as per the requirement.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and GoAP in September, 2022 for mutation of entire 372.72 acres land in possession of AAI in Vizag Civil Enclave in the name of AAI with permission to use the said land for any purpose without any restriction. Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted No Objection Certificate (NOC) in September, 2022 to GoAP for closure of scheduled commercial operations at the Civil Enclave at existing Vizag Naval Airfield (INS Dega) for 30 years, subject to compliance of the provisions of MoU entered between AAI and GoAP.
