

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
STARRED QUESTION NO. : 33
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24th July 2023
KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

33. DR. JOHN BRITTAS

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

- a) whether it is a fact that the Government has been encouraging private investment for developing greenfield airports;**
- b) if so, details thereof;**
- c) number of greenfield airports commissioned during last three years;**
- d) the details of airports which have attained viability or running in loss as on date;**
- e) whether Kannur Airport has been incurring losses due to lack of sufficient international flights on account of denial of Point of Call status; and**
- f) whether Government will reverse its stand in this matter?**

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 33 regarding "Kannur International Airport" to be answered on 24.07.2023.

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has taken various steps to attract investments from private investors for development of airport infrastructure in the country including Greenfield Airports.

100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Greenfield and Brownfield airport projects under the FDI Policy has been permitted. MoCA has granted 'in principle' approval to various State Governments, who have undertaken development of Greenfield Airports under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode including Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Bhogapuram in Andhra Pradesh and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) & (d): During last 3 years, 6 Greenfield airports namely, Sindhudurg, Oravakal (Kurnool), Kushinagar, Itanagar, Mopa and Shivamogga have been operationalised. Greenfield airports are developed with the goal of enhancing connectivity leading to all round economic development of the region. Greenfield Airport Projects are capital intensive with long gestation periods. The viability of greenfield airports depends on various factors, including regulatory approvals, infrastructure development, airline and route development, passenger and cargo demand, market competition, and revenue generation efforts. The profit/loss details of the above mentioned 6 Airports for FY-2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 is at Annexure.

(e) & (f): International flight operations are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective countries. Currently, due to significant imbalance in the number of points of call in favour of foreign carriers, the Government of India does not grant any non-metro airport as a new point of call to any foreign carrier. However, in accordance with ASA, Indian designated carriers are free to mount operations to/from any international airport including Kannur to foreign destinations as per mutually agreed capacity limits. However, start of international flight from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of economic viability of the route and other associated factors. Kannur Airport become operational on 09.12.2018 and during FY-2018-2019, there were 577 International flight movements from the airport which increased to 5385 during the pre-COVID

period FY-2019-2020. In FY-2022-23, the airport handled 6215 International flight movements indicating that the International traffic is continuously growing at Kannur Airport.

Presently, Kannur Airport is connected to 10 International Destinations namely Doha, Abu Dhabi, Riyadh, Muscat, Kuwait, Sharjah, Dubai, Dammam, Bahrain and Jeddah.

Annexure

Annexure to statement referred in reply of Rajya Sabha SQ no. 33
for answer on 24.07.2023

Profit/Loss Statement of 6 Greenfield Airports

(₹ in crore)

SL. NO.	NAME OF AIRPORT	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	SINDHUDURG	-20.37	-22.49	-40.20
2	*ORVAKAL (KURNOOL)	NA	-18.28	- 6.50
3	KUSHINAGAR	-3.58	-2.78	-9.05
4	**DONYI POLO	NA	NA	-3.38
5	***MOPA	NA	NA	-148.34
6	***SHIVAMOGGA	NA	NA	NA

NA- Not Applicable

*Orvakal (Kurnool) Airport was operationalized in March, 2021.

**Donyi Polo Airport was operationalized in November, 2022.

***Mopa Airport was operationalized in January, 2023 and Shivamogga Airport was operationalized in February, 2023.
