

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 334
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24th July 2023)

**DEVELOPMENT OF GREENFIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN
HIMACHAL PRADESH**

334. DR. SIKANDER KUMAR

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

- (a) the details of the progress made so far on the process of survey/construction of Greenfield International airport at Ner Chowk in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) the details of the equity/total budget sanctioned for the project along with the expected date of work commencement; and
- (c) whether there is any delay in the progress of the project and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c): Government of India (GoI) has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008 which prescribes the procedure and conditions for development of new Greenfield airports in the country. There is a two stage process of approval, i.e. 'Site-Clearance' followed by 'In-Principle' approval.

Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has granted first stage clearance i.e. 'Site Clearance' to State Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP) on 04.07.2022 for the development of an International Standard Greenfield airport at Nagchala, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.

The State Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) have signed a Joint Venture (JV) Agreement on 25.04.2022 for development of the airport. As per the provisions of JV Agreement, GoHP is responsible for providing grant for all the Capital Expenditure for the airport project. A Joint Venture Company has been formed on 09.11.2022, where GoHP has 51% equity and the remaining 49% equity is held by AAI.

Application of "In-Principle" approval along with Detailed Project Report (DPR) has not been received in MoCA from the JV Company / State Government so far.

As per the GFA Policy, 2008, the responsibility of implementation of airport projects including funding of the project, land acquisition, R&R etc rests with the concerned airport developer including the respective State Government (in case the State Government is the project proponent). The timeline for construction of airports depends upon various factors such as land acquisition, mandatory clearances, removal of obstacles, financial closure etc. by the respective airport developers.
