

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 201
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th February 2024)

SECOND AIRPORT FOR CHENNAI

201. SHRI P. WILSON

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

- (a) the details of fund allocated, connectivity planned, air traffic, and anticipated completion timeline of the second airport proposed in Chennai;
- (b) the details of current progress of expansion project in Tuticorin, Trichy, Madurai, Coimbatore, and Salem airports, and details thereof;
- (c) whether Government vide notification dated 10th January, 2023 has made Madurai Airport operational for 24 hrs but still it is not being implemented, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has considered making Tuticorin, Trichy, Coimbatore and Salem airports operational for 24 hrs and details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government will considered adding more airports under UDAN scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu and if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a): As per Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008, Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited (TIDCO), a Government of Tamil Nadu Enterprise has submitted an application to Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) for grant of first stage clearance i.e. 'Site-Clearance' for development of a Greenfield airport at Parandur, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu. After completion of consultation with stakeholders, the proposal will be placed before the Steering Committee on Greenfield Airports for their recommendation, with respect to award of Site Clearance. 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. 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).

(b): The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken the construction of New Terminal Building, ATC Tower cum Technical Block, extension of Runway With

Blast Pad, Runway End Safety Area, Taxiway, Apron and Associated works at Tuticorin Airport, upgradation of passenger Terminal Building and air side facilities at Tiruchirappalli Airport, construction of new ATC Tower cum Technical Block at Madurai Airport, resurfacing of Runway at Coimbatore Airport and construction of additional parking bays and allied works at Salem Airport. The works at Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore and Salem airports have been completed.

(c): Madurai Airport is already equipped to operate under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) but operationalising the airport for 24 hours daily has not been possible yet due to shortage of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) manpower deployed at the airport.

(d): The provision of 24 hours daily operations is purely based on the demand and operational requirements of the airlines and is undertaken by AAI and other airport operators from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio- economic considerations, traffic demand / willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports etc. Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli airports are already operational for 24 hours daily. At Tuticorin and Salem airports, there are single shift operations at present and no request for scheduled flight operations beyond existing watch hours has been received yet.

(e): Five airports, namely, Vellore, Neyveli, Salem, Ramnad and Tanjore have been identified for development and operationalisation under the UDAN Scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu. Salem Airport has already been operationalised. Development works at Vellore and Neyveli have been completed and licensing is in progress. The works related to the establishment of the Civil Enclave at Tanjore Airport is being carried out by AAI. The site for Ramnad Airport is to be finalised and handed over by the State Government to AAI for development under the Regional Connectivity Scheme.
