GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION Rajya Sabha UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2257 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16th December 2024

ATTAINMENTS OF CARBON NEUTRALITY AT AIRPORTS

2257. SHRI TAJVEER SINGH

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

(a) whether Government has launched any specific scheme to achieve carbon neutrality at airports in the country, if so, the objectives of this scheme and the details of major steps taken under it;

(b) whether Government has formulated any standard for monitoring and reporting of carbon emissions at airports, if so, the methodology used in this process and details of its impact; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any specific incentive scheme so that new airports could prioritise carbon neutrality?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Civil Aviation has advised all the operational airports with scheduled operations and developers of the upcoming Greenfield Airports to work towards achieving Carbon Neutrality & Net Zero which inter-alia includes use of green energy.

MoCA has taken initiatives for working towards Carbon neutrality at airports in the country and organised knowledge sharing sessions to standardise Carbon Accounting and Reporting framework of Indian Airports as well as to create awareness on Climate Change mitigation. Further, airport operators with scheduled operations have been advised to map the carbon emission at their respective airports and to work towards carbon neutrality & net zero emissions in a phased manner. Since 2014, a total of 80 airports have switched over to 100% green energy usage. Bengaluru Airport has achieved the highest Carbon Accreditation Level 5 of Airports International Council (ACI), whereas Airports viz. Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad have achieved Level 4+ ACI accreditation. These airports have become Carbon neutral.

Optimum use of national airspace by fully implementing the concept of Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) has also been suggested by Ministry of Civil Aviation under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat vision. This has led to cumulative savings of approximately Rs. 868.1 crore by all reporting airlines by way of significant savings in flight time & fuel usage and also cumulative reduction of more than 188538.5 tonnes in CO2 Emission since 01 Aug 2020.

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) takes into consideration the Capital expenditure relating to Green Energy Projects, Carbon Neutrality etc. during the Tariff determination process of Major Airports.

* * * * * *