

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 8**  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024)

**EXPANSION OF SALEM AIRPORT**

8. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to expand Salem airport, considering its status as one of Tamil Nadu oldest airports and Salem city's rapid industrial development and being a major textile hub;
- (b) if so, the details of expansion plans, including timeline, funding, and infrastructure upgrades;
- (c) the reasons for delay in expanding the airport, despite growing air travel demand and inconvenience to travelers required to travel to distant cities like Bengaluru and Coimbatore; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to allocate funds for Salem airport's expansion, considering its potential for economic growth?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): For expansion of Salem Airport for operation of A-321 type of aircraft with runway length of 3200m, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has projected a land requirement of 460 acre in three phases to the State Government of Tamil Nadu. In the first phase, 177 acres of land have been requested to enable Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations for ATR-72 type aircraft. As per the National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016, the responsibility for providing land for airport development, free of cost and free from all encumbrances, lies with the respective State Government. The allocation of funds by AAI for the development of the Salem Airport is contingent upon the transfer of the requisite land by the State Government.

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