

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1634

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd August 2026

**OPERATIONALIZATION OF GREENFIELD DAGADARTHI
AIRPORT AT NELLORE, ANDHRA PRADESH**

1634. SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA

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

- (a) whether Government has granted in-principle approval for the proposed greenfield Dagadarthi airport in Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, given its strategic importance for seafood exports, manufacturing and agri-logistics in the region;
- (b) current status of statutory and technical clearances required for the project and the broad stage at which the Public-Private Partnership bidding process presently stands;
- (c) the manner in which the Central Government is extending support to Government of Andhra Pradesh to facilitate timely completion of remaining clearances and commencement of construction; and
- (d) expected timeline by when the airport is likely to be operationalize?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Government of India (GoI) has granted 'In-Principle' approval to the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) in 2016 for development of a Greenfield Airport at Dagadarthi (Nellore).

Initially on 07.06.2016, tenders were invited by GoAP for development of the airport under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The Concession Agreement signed in June, 2018 was later terminated in 2020 due to non-conclusive financial closure by the selected bidder. Further, tender for selection of PPP Concessionaire was floated on 05.09.2025 followed by second call on 05.03.2026 and third call on 29.05.2026. No bids have been approved till date.

As per the Greenfield Airports Policy, the responsibility of implementation of airport projects rests with the airport developer concerned including the respective State Government (in case the State Government is the project proponent). The timeline for construction of an airport depends upon many factors, such as, land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc.
