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

(a) the number of airports under the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in Gujarat;
(b) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for upgradation of the airports of the State to international standard; and
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement in reply to parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Starred (*) Question No. 267 for answer on 11.07.2019 regarding 'Upgradation of Airports'.

(a): Airports Authority of India (AAI) owns and maintains 11 airports in Gujarat including two Civil Enclaves at Bhuj and Jamnagar.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. Based on the request of the Government of Gujarat, the Union Government has approved construction of new international airports at Dholera and Rajkot. Further, Vadodara and Surat airports have been upgraded to international standards by AAI. Ahmedabad airport is an international airport and Surat Airport is a Customs notified airport where international flight operations are also permitted. However, development and upgradation of airports to international standards is a continuous process which is undertaken by AAI from time to time depending upon commercial viability, traffic demand, availability of land etc.

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