

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. : 379
(To be answered on the 18th July 2019)

DARBHANGA AND MUZZAFARPUR AIRPORTS

*379. SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the progress of the construction work of Darbhanga airport along with the reasons for not operating air-services within the earlier scheduled time limit;
- (b) the time by which the flights are likely to be started from Darbhanga airport along with the details of the initiatives taken by the Government;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to start civil flights from Muzzafarpur and if so, the details thereof indicating the time by which the air services will be operated; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

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

Statement in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred (*) Question No.379 for 18.07.2019 regarding 'Darbhanga and Muzzafarpur airports'.

(a): Darbhanga Airport belongs to Indian Air Force (IAF) and Ministry of Defence has accorded approval for the development of a civil enclave at the airport for joint use. Foundation stone laying ceremony was conducted on 24.12.2018 to start the construction activities. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken work of construction of Interim Terminal Building (ITB) and strengthening of runway for operation of civil flights. The delay in the operationalization of the airport can be attributed to multiple factors such as grant of working permission by IAF, poor performance of the executing agency for runway work etc.

(b): The airport is included in the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) and under the second bidding round of the scheme, routes from Darbhanga to Bengaluru, Delhi and Mumbai have been awarded to M/s SpiceJet. The probable date for commencement of flight operations at the airport is December, 2019.

(c) & (d): Muzaffarpur airport is a non-operational airport of AAI. The airport has been included in the list of un-served airports in RCS-UDAN scheme. However, no airline operator has submitted bids to start operations from Muzzafarpur.
