

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2657
(To be answered on the 16th March 2023)**

GREENFIELD AIRPORT

2657. SHRI ANTO ANTONY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- a) whether the Government has examined the details submitted by the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) for setting up of greenfield airport at Erumely in Kottayam district, Kerala;**
(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereon;
(c) whether the Government has given other clearances like environment, defence etc. for the proposed airport; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) and (b): In June, 2020, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), a Government of Kerala Enterprise, submitted an application under Greenfield Airports Policy (GFA) Policy, 2008 to Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) for grant of 'Site Clearance' for development of Greenfield airport at Kottayam (Sabarimala) in Kerala. The proposal of KSIDC was considered in consultation with Airports Authority of India (AAI), Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Ministry of Defence (MoD) and KSIDC as per GFA Policy, 2008. Further, based on the observations of AAI and DGCA, KSIDC was requested to submit a Techno-Economic Feasibility Study (TEFS) Report. The Final TEFS report was submitted by KSIDC in June, 2022 and the same was shared with AAI and DGCA.

The proposal was placed on 22.11.2022 before the 32nd Steering Committee on Greenfield airports for consideration of grant of Site Clearance to KSIDC for development of Greenfield airport at Kottayam (Sabarimala), Kerala. Based on the deliberations in the Steering Committee meeting, certain information with respect to (i) availability of land, free from all encumbrances, (ii) vetting of the Impact Assessment data by an independent agency and (iii) Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of the project were sought from Government of Kerala / KSIDC. These were received from KSIDC in December, 2022 and comments/observations of DGCA and AAI were sought on the same which were received on 12.01.2023 and

02.02.2023 respectively.

Subsequently, KSIDC has been requested by MoCA on 16.02.2023 to carry out the Impact Assessment of all the existing civil airports within 150 Km from proposed airport, including Madurai airport and to get the impact data vetted by engaging a third party. Reply of KSIDC is awaited.

(c) and (d): The proposal for development of Greenfield airport at Kottayam (Sabarimala) has received No Objection from MoD. Further, KSIDC is in the process of carrying out the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study at the site.
