

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3202
(To be answered on the 21st December 2023)**

POLICY FOR AIRSPACE USAGE

**3202. DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL
SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL
SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA
SHRI MANOJ KOTAK
SHRI RATANSINH MAGANSINH RATHOD
SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD
SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE
PROF RITA BAHUGUNA JOSHI
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT
DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details on the recent policy changes that have been implemented to improve the efficiency of airspace usage;**
- (b) the details of the initiatives undertaken to simplify travel and lodging arrangements for religious pilgrims embarking on spiritual pilgrimages;**
- (c) the details of immersive training programmes introduced to improve the skills and competencies of public service employees within the Ministry;**
- (d) whether there is any proposal to set up new airport in Wardha, Maharashtra; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said airport is likely to be set up and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a): Achieving the optimal utilisation of airspace is a continuous effort that requires collaboration among all stakeholders, including airlines. The Flexible

Use of Airspace initiative, as an integral component of this effort, acknowledges the dynamic nature of air traffic and seeks to establish a framework for flexible and adaptive airspace management. To date, 129 conditional routes have been instituted as a tangible outcome of this initiative.

(b): To enhance ease of travel for passengers, the Government has launched Digi Yatra for biometric-based travel using Facial Recognition Technology. The main objective of Digi Yatra Service is to elevate passenger experience by eliminating the need for manual verification of ticket and ID at multiple touch points like entry gates, security check point and boarding gates and to achieve better throughput through existing infrastructure using a Digital Framework.

(c): As part of the Mission Karmayogi initiative, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has launched the Immersive Training Programme (ITP), with an aim to provide field experience to the officials of MoCA. Under this programme, training with private entities such as airlines, airports, cargo, ground handling, general aviation, aerospace manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), Flying Training Organisations (FTOs), Drones etc. is offered to the officials.

(d) & (e): Government of India (GoI) has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008 for development of new Greenfield airports in the country. As per the policy, if any developer including the State Government desires to develop an airport, they are required to identify a suitable site and get the Pre-feasibility Study conducted for construction of airport and submit a proposal to the Central Government for 'Site Clearance' followed by 'In-Principle' approval.

Under this Policy, GoI has not received proposal for setting up of a Greenfield Airport at Wardha, Maharashtra either from State Government of Maharashtra or any Airport Developer.
