

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3195
(To be answered on the 16th December 2021)**

RUNWAY CAPACITY OF AIRPORT

3195. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has initiated action to resolve the imminent threat due to the constrained runway capacity of the airports and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has taken steps to increase the runway capacity of the airports considering the heavy aviation traffic and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to give permission for construction of new airports considering the heavy air traffic and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has conducted any study regarding the requirement for new airport in Kerala and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has granted permission to the Government of Kerala for constructing airport at Cheruvally Estate nearly Erumely and if so, the details and reasons thereof; and
- (f) the details regarding the action taken on Sabarimala Erumely Chervally Airport?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) & (b): Works to improve the runway capacity at the airports, which include extension of runway, construction of Parallel Taxi Track, Link Taxi Track and Rapid Exit Taxi Track are undertaken by Airport Operators from time to time subject to the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand, willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports etc.

(c): Government of India (GoI) has accorded 'in-principle' approval for setting up of 21 Greenfield Airports across the country, out of which eight airports namely Durgapur, Shirdi, Sindhudurg, Pakyong, Kannur,

Kalaburagi, Oravakal and Kushinagar have been operationalized.

(d) to (f): No such study has been conducted by GoI/ AAI. However, GoI has formulated a Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008 which provides guidelines, procedure and conditions for establishment of new Greenfield Airports in the country. As per Policy, an airport developer, including the State Government, willing to establish an airport is required to send a proposal to the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA). GoI has received a proposal from M/s. Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) for grant of 'site clearance' for setting up of Greenfield Airport at Kottayam on 2263.18 acres of land falling in villages Erumeli(South) and Manimala under Cheruvally Estate in District Kottayam near Sabarimala. The proposal was examined in MoCA in consultation with Ministry of Defence, AAI and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Subsequently, KSIDC had submitted a Techno Economic Feasibility Study (TEFS) to MoCA. Based on the observations of AAI and DGCA, the KSIDC has been requested to furnish updated/final TEFS report.
