DEVELOPMENT OF DARBHANGA AIRPORT

3396.   SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
        नागर विमानन मंत्री   **be pleased to state:-**

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Darbhanga Airport as an international airport in Bihar and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the time by which the work of land acquisition for constructing an international airport at Darbhanga is likely to be completed;
(c) the time by which the night landing facilities would be available at Darbhanga Airport; and
(d) the details of the funds allocated for the same?

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ANSWER

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Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
        नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
                                          (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): The Darbhanga Airport belongs to the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains an interim Civil Enclave at this airport. Considering the growth of passenger traffic in the region, AAI has undertaken the development of a new Civil Enclave at Darbhanga Airport at a cost of Rs. 911.66 crore. For this purpose, the State Government of Bihar has handed over 52.65 acre land to AAI.

Being an IAF airport, the provision of Radio Navigational Aids (such as Instrument Landing System (ILS), Doppler Very High Frequency Omni-Directional Radio Range/ Distance Measuring Equipment (DVOR/DME), etc.), which may facilitate night landing operations at this Airport, falls under the purview of the IAF.

Declaration of an airport as an International Airport depends upon traffic potential, demand from airlines for the operation of international flights, and bilateral Air Services Agreement besides provision of Ground Lighting facilities, Instrument Landing System, runway length, Immigration, Health and Animal & Plant Quarantine services etc. Currently, no such proposal for

declaration of Darbhanga Airport as an International Airport is under consideration in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

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