

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1323
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS .
Pateriya Smt. Neeta

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of international airports in the country at present;
- (b) whether there is any demands to convert some airports in the country as international airports; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

- (a) As on 3.8.2006, 16 airports in the country are declared as international airports.
- (b) & (c) There are persistent demands from State Governments, Members of Parliament and various Govt./private agencies for upgradation of airports in Bhubhaneshwar, Indore, Raipur, Mangalore, Pune, Ludhiana, Chandigarh and Port Blair into international airports. Declaration of an airport as an international airport is contingent on various factors such as requirement of airline operators, traffic demand, availability of land, customs, immigration, plant and animal quarantine facilities etc. and is considered from time to time taking into account various factors involved.