

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3749  
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004  
SMALLER AIRCRAFT FOR ANDHRA PRADESH  
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has reduced Sales Tax on Aviation Turbines to encourage development of civil aviation;
- (b) if so, the details of the development work taken up by the Union Government in that State;
- (c) whether the State Government has requested the Union Government to introduce smaller aircraft in the State; and
- (d) 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): No Sir.

(b): Details of development works undertaken by Airports Authority of India at airports in Andhra Pradesh are as under:-

1. Hyderabad:- Strengthening & expansion of runway from 9080 ft. to 10600 ft.
2. Visakhapatnam:-New runway of length 10000 ft. and associated facilities for operation of wide bodied aircraft constructed.
3. Tirupathi:- Infrastructure upgraded in 1998.
4. Vijaywada :- The runway strengthened for the operation of B-737-200 type of aircraft and new apron of size 350 ft.x250 ft. with a link taxiway of dimension 450 ft. x 75 ft. was constructed.
5. Rajahmundry:- The runway was strengthened and construction of taxi track and apron for the operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft was completed in April, 2002.

(c) and (d) :- Requests have been received from A.P. Government for introduction of smaller aircraft to Rajamundry, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam & Tirupati. Indian Airlines provides air services to/from Visakhapatnam and Tirupati whereas Air Deccan has introduced flights on Hyderabad-Vijayawada, Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad-Tirupati sectors.

Further, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.