

>Title: Need to clear the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra for upgradation of the Nagpur Airport to the international level.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Sir, only eleven airports out of the 85 are alleged to be profit making and the Government proposes to identify the loss making airports where private participation in their development and upgradation was necessary so as to make them financially viable. The upgradation of the airports is the dire necessity for the proper development of trade, commerce and the tourist industry. Even the airports at the under developed countries have been brought to the international level and they have been a great attraction to the tourists. Since the formulation of proposals for upgradation is a very lengthy process, Government should meanwhile agree to the requests from the State Governments intending to upgrade their airports to the international standards with their own resources. For instance, the State Government of Maharashtra have planned to develop a world class multi modal hub airport at Nagpur to cater for passenger and cargo needs. The techno-economic study done for the airport has come to the definite conclusion that it would be one of the best airports in the country on completion. The State Government intends to develop this airport with the help of the financial and other institutions but the clearance of the Central Government to this prestigious project is pending for a long time.

I would urge upon the Government to agree to the proposal received from the State Government of Maharashtra for the upgradation of the Nagpur airport to the international level.