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Title: Need to direct Airport Authority of India to expedite assessment of Environmental Impact due to proposed reclamation of sea land for extension of runway at Agatti Airport in Lakshadweep.

SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED (LAKSHADWEEP): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the present Airport at Agatti in Lakshadweep was constructed for operation of 20 seater Dornier Aircraft. Presently the ATR 45 flight is operating with load restriction. I am told that the minimum runway requirement for ATR- 72 would be about 1600m+180m.

The Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Lakshadweep Administration have decided to extend the runway by 200 meters towards North and 90 meters towards South without dislocating the existing infrastructure.

The Airport Authority of India has revised the plan for extension of runway at Agatti. On scrutiny of the plan, it was noticed that Airport Authority of India has proposed to reclaim land from sea which needs the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be done by the AAI.

Therefore, I request and urge upon the Government to intervene immediately to kindly direct the AAI to look into this matter at the earliest and get the EIA done expeditiously.