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Title: Need to start construction work for Deoghar Airport in Jharkhand.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): I seek the intervention of the Government in getting the construction work of the Deoghar airport started. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Centre at Deoghar is an important defence establishment. In addition, a Cantonment is also proposed to be set up in the area. Thus both DRDO Centre and the cantonment requires setting up of this airport at the earliest. Improved connectivity will also be needed in the coming months as several other proposed infrastructure projects like 4000mw UMPP and one All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) like Institute are coming up in the region. Besides, large part of the state is affected by naxalism for which paramilitary forces also need to be deployed in the region. Hence, the early completion of a proper airport will be of great help for this region.

As district of Deoghar in Jharkhand is a very important location, the government of India has already decided to undertake several strategic initiatives in this area. An MoU between Government of Jharkhand & Airports Authority of India for the proposed airport at Deoghar has already been signed in 2012 February. Since then, the process of land Acquisition has also picked up with as much as 600 acres being acquired under Section 9.

The land will be available for immediate commencement of work by 31st January, 2016 and Jharkhand Government is more than willing to help in this important strategic endeavour.