

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Union Civil aviation Minister requested the Governor to ask the State Government to furnish land details and cost of 525 acre for Green Field Airport, without any further delay.**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa met the Union Minister for Civil Aviation Shri P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju at Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan at the Safdarjung Airport in New Delhi on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

They discussed on the overall civil aviation scenario of Arunachal Pradesh and various aviation related issues including the Greenfield airport and financing of renovating twenty existing helipads in different parts of State.

As for the Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, the concerned members of the Board of Airport Authority of India (AAI), who was present at the meeting informed that the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh has to acquire and hand over 525 acre of land free of cost and free of all encumbrance, after which further steps will be taken to prepare DPR and seek approval of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Public Investment Board (PIB), Niti Aayog, Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs (CCEA) etc. The Minister expressed concerned that Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh has not even informed the AAI of the acquisition cost of the 525 acres of land, which through is to be provided free by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, the AAI would need that cost details for preparation of DPR. The last letter was sent to Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh in September 2015. The Governor was further informed that Environment impact Assessment would also have to completed, which itself will require about six to nine months due to the time-consuming statutory requirements. The Union Minister requested the Governor to ask the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh to furnish land details and cost of 525 acre, without any further delay.

The Governor emphasised on expediting the projects under Ministry of Civil Aviation in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. He said that the State tourism and export of perishable horticultural products such as Kiwis, oranges, apples and pineapples will get tremendous boost. It will also facilitate in evacuation of patients in medical emergencies and affected people during natural calamities and at the same time provide a better means of communication to the local populace. He informed that Tezu Airport is yet to be activated.

The Governor reiterated his request for three to four additional airports and to support helipads for the State owing to its huge geographical area. Such infrastructure will not only be useful at the time of crisis but also instil a sense of security amongst the people of the Frontier State, besides serving the defence needs, he emphasised.

In the meeting, the Governor also stressed on dual utilization of Advance Landing Grounds in Vijaynagar, Walong, Ziro, Aalo, Mechuka, Tuting and Pasighat with Civil Terminals. At present, there are no Civil Terminals in all the reactivated ALGs, which includes Ziro in Lower Subansiri District, Aalo in West Siang District and Walong in Anjaw District. The ALGs, which had civil terminals earlier, have stopped functioning. Now no civilian aircrafts are allowed to land as it requires lots of paperwork with Ministry of Defence. The Governor is scheduled to meet the Defence Minister in this regard very soon.

The Union Minister, who has already initiated steps for detailed study of the feasibility of new Civil Aviation projects in Arunachal Pradesh by a high level team, assured the Governor to look into the issue positively.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
ITANAGAR, March 17, 2016