Press Release from Tourism and Civil Aviation Department
Government of Sikkim
Gangtok, Sikkim | October 1, 2026

AAI Initiates Pre-Feasibility Studies for Proposed Greenfield Airports at Ranka, Martam and Sadam in Sikkim.

GANGTOK, SIKKIM — The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has initiated pre-feasibility studies for three proposed Greenfield airport sites at Ranka, Martam and Sadam in Sikkim, following a proposal submitted by the Government of Sikkim.

The pre-feasibility studies are being undertaken by a multi-disciplinary technical team of AAI to assess the suitability and feasibility of the proposed sites from technical, operational, aviation and other relevant perspectives. The exercise will provide preliminary technical inputs for further consideration of the proposals in accordance with applicable policies, guidelines and statutory requirements.

The initiative is being pursued under the Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008, along with the provisions applicable to the North-Eastern States.

The Government of Sikkim has been closely coordinating with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India, and the Airports Authority of India in taking forward the proposal.

The proposed locations at Ranka, Martam and Sadam are being examined with the objective of assessing the scope for strengthening air connectivity and improving regional accessibility within Sikkim.

The pre-feasibility exercise will cover key parameters including site suitability, aviation requirements, operational considerations, connectivity, engineering aspects and other technical parameters necessary for a preliminary assessment.

The initiative is being pursued under the leadership and guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri Prem Singh Tamang, with the continued support and concerted efforts of the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim, Shri Tshering T. Bhutia, and the Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia.

The continued engagement and regular review of the issue of air connectivity to Sikkim by the concerned leadership and authorities have provided significant impetus to the State's efforts towards strengthening and expanding air connectivity.

A multi-disciplinary technical team from the Airports Authority of India is undertaking the pre-feasibility studies. The team comprises:

Shri. Roshan Dasu Kamble, General Manager (Aero-Planning), CHQ
Shri Sunil Prasad, General Manager (Engg.-Civil), CHQ, WR/NER.
Shri.Gaurav Yadav, Dy. General Manager (Arch.), CHQ.
Shri Amit Srivastava, Asst. GM (CNS), Pakyong
Shri.Sachidanand Pandey, Sr. Manager (ATM-CFD), CHQ
Shri.Prashant Gupta, Sr. Manager (Ops.), CHQ.

From State Tourism and Civil Aviation Department the team led by PCE cum Secretary Shri.Neeraj Pradhan accompanied by senior officers of the Department attended the said accessment.

The team is undertaking site-level technical assessment and examination of the relevant parameters for the proposed locations.

The findings of the pre-feasibility studies will provide the necessary technical inputs for further consideration of the proposed Greenfield airport sites.

It may be noted that the pre-feasibility study is an initial technical assessment and does not, by itself, constitute approval for construction or development of an airport. Any further decision regarding development of the proposed airports will be subject to the findings of the studies and the applicable approvals, clearances, policies, statutory requirements and prescribed procedures.

The Government of Sikkim will continue to coordinate closely with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India and other concerned authorities for taking the proposal forward in accordance with the applicable framework.