### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1695 (To be answered on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024)

# **OPERATIONAL AIRPORTS**

### 1695. SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR

## Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION लागर विमालल मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is true that the airports constructed in various parts of the country involving heavy investment have not become fully operational yet and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are many airports in various districts of the country including Maharashtra from where not a single flight is taking off even today and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also true these airports couldn't be operationalised despite launch of UDAN Scheme for the purpose and if so, the reasons therefor, Statewise; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

#### ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION ਗਾਹਾ ਰਿਸ਼ਾਰਾਰ ਸੰਸਾਦਾਰ ਸੈਂ ਹਾਤਰ ਸੰਸੀ (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b) No airport, constructed with heavy investment by AAI, is non-operational.

(c) & (d) Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN) has been launched by the Government to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country. RCS-UDAN is a demand driven scheme wherein Airline Operators assess the feasibility of operations on a particular route and bid from time to time. Revival / up-gradation of unserved and underserved airports is undertaken upon its identification through valid bid and award to the Selected Airline Operator (SAO). Till date, 85 airports including 13 Heliports and 2 water aerodromes have been operationalised under the UDAN scheme.

With repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation has been totally deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with

any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate with the compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) issued by Government and further approval of schedule from DGCA. Hence, it is up to the airline operator to consider the introduction of air services to/from any city in the country depending on their operational & commercial viabilities.

\*\*\*\*\*