

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:79
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2017
Flights from Unserved Airports
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to start flights to and from 43 unused/unserved airports in the country under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), if so, the details thereof including the number of unused/unserved airstrips across the country, State/UT-wise and the number of towns/cities which have been identified for connectivity under RCS;
- (b) whether it is proposed to connect more cities under RCS and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government to make unused/unserved airstrips operational; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop the airport infrastructure across the country and if so, the details thereof along with the expenditure likely to be incurred on their development, State/UTwise

Answer

The Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 79, REGARDING "FLIGHTS FROM UNSERVED AIRPORTS" TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2017.

(a) to (d): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme on 21-10-2016 for providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports of the country. The primary objective of RCS is to facilitate/ stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable by providing Viability Gap Funding (VGF) and other concessions to the selected airline operators under RCS. The airlines are free to select airports based on their assessment of demand on particular routes and submit proposals at the time of bidding under RCS from time to time.; Airports Authority of India(AAI), the implementing agency of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) -UDAN after first round of bidding has awarded 27 numbers of proposals involving 31 unserved, 12 under-served airports. The list is enclosed at Annexure-I. ; Periodical bidding would be a continues process under the Scheme for expanding the Regional Connectivity; The indicative list of under served airports un-served airports in India, attached with the Scheme, at present, are at Annexure-II and Annexure-III.; The Government has approved the proposal for revival of 50 un-served/ under-served airports/airstrips of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India and Civil enclaves at an estimate cost of Rs. 4500 crores. However, the revival of airstrips/airports is "demand driven", depending upon firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions.