

QUESTION DETAILS

MINISTRY OF : CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 1926

TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.07.2019

Improving air connectivity and infrastructure in Karnataka

1926. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there are several non-operational airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to operationalise such defunct airports in Karnataka;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to improve air connectivity and infrastructure in Karnataka?

Answer

The Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Several airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) are non-operational at present. The State-wise details are at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) in 2016 for promotion of Regional Connectivity by way of revival of un-served and under-served airports/airstrips, helipads of the State Governments, AAI, Civil Enclaves and CPSUs through a Budgetary support of Rs.4500 crores. 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. Mysuru airport in Karnataka has been operationalized under the scheme.

(e): Upgradation of infrastructure of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and concerned private operators from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand / willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports. AAI has initiated action for expansion of New Integrated Terminal Building and extension of parallel taxi track at Mangaluru Airport in Karnataka. Further, Bengaluru International Airport Limited (BIAL) has undertaken the construction of second runway, terminal 2 and allied facilities.

As far as improvement in air connectivity is concerned, flights operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) issued by the Government. It is upto the airline operator to provide air services to a specific place depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.

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