

QUESTION DETAILS

MINISTRY OF : CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 472

TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.06.2019

Operation of airlines under the UDAN scheme

472. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar

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

(a) whether many airlines have failed to start operation under the UDAN scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether Government is planning to launch UDAN international to enhance air connectivity from India to select overseas destinations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to improve air connectivity in the country?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) is monitored on regular basis to review the progress and to make the course corrections. Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) are not able to mount operations, within specified timeline as per contract, are issued with Show Cause notices. In case of willful default by a SAO, cancellation of routes are done by forfeiting the Performance Guarantee/Proposal Security. Airline-wise/ Round-wise details of commencement/cancellation of routes awarded under RCS-UDAN are attached at Annexure-A. Details of routes commenced under RCS - UDAN are attached at Annexure B.

(c) and (d): On request of State Government of Assam, UDAN International has been launched. The bidding process for 6 routes connecting Guwahati to Kathmandu, Dhaka, Yangon, Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur has been completed. After e-bidding process, Guwahati to Dhaka and Guwahati to Bangkok routes were awarded to M/s SpiceJet Limited for operation of flights under UDAN International. The financial support is provided by the concerned State Government. Government of India would facilitate the implementation of UDAN International Scheme to enhance air connectivity from India to selected overseas destinations, on request of State Governments.

(e): The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched RCS-UDAN 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. Promoting affordability of Regional air connectivity is envisioned under RCS by supporting airline operators through (i) concessions by Central Government, State Governments and airport operators to reduce the cost of airline operations on regional routes and (ii) financial support (viability gap funding or VGF) to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such routes. RCS-UDAN is a demand-driven scheme, where airline operators undertake assessment of demand on particular routes.

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