

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 91
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2018)

AIR CONNECTIVITY IN WEST BENGAL UNDER UDAN SCHEME

*91. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY

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

- (a) how many cities/towns in West Bengal have been included in the UDAN scheme to facilitate air connectivity;
- (b) what steps Government have initiated to connect Cooch Behar, Balurghat and Malda by air, where functional airstrips already exist, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to introduce direct round trip Air India flights from International Airport, Kolkata to the capitals of island countries like Singapore, Maldives, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka etc. for promoting tourism in Eastern India; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Suresh Prabhu)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 91 FOR REPLY ON 19.12.2018 REGARDING "AIR CONNECTIVITY IN WEST BENGAL UNDER UDAN SCHEME".

(a): The list of un-served/underserved airports in West Bengal included under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN 3 are at Annex-1.

(b): In the first round of bidding under RCS-UDAN, following network connecting Cooch Behar has been awarded under UDAN 1 :
Kolkata - Cooch Behar - Kolkata - Jamshedpur - Kolkata - Rourkela - Kolkata - Andal (Durgapur) -Bagdogra -Durgapur - Kolkata -Burnpur - Kolkata.

Malda & Balurghat are listed in RCS as unserved airports. However, no bid was received under UDAN 1 & 2. In case any bid is received in UDAN 3, the same may be considered as per the provision of RCS.

(c) &(d): Air India/ Air India Express is currently operating to Bangkok, Yangon, Kathmandu and Dhaka from Kolkata. The start of operation by airline operator from any airport depends upon their commercial judgement, route viability and availability of aircraft and other resources. Indian carriers including Air India are free to mount operations from Kolkata to foreign destinations as per agreed bilateral and available capacity entitlements.

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Sd/-) (Signature)

(a) to (b): A statement is laid on the table of the House

S.No.	Un-served/Underserved Airports included in UDAN 3
1	Ambari
2	Asansol
3	Balurghat
4	Barrackpore
5	Behrampur
6	Bhatpara
7	Bishnupur
8	Dhubalia
9	Digri
10	Dudhkundi
11	Durgapur (Andal)
12	Guskhara
13	Hashimara
14	Kalaikunda
15	Kanchrapara
16	Kharagpur
17	Madhaiganj
18	Maheshganj
19	Malda
20	New lands
21	Panagarh
22	Pandeveswar
23	Piardora
24	Rampurhat
25	Sal Bani

