GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 161
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd February 2021

AIR SERVICES FROM SMALL CITIES

161. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to provide air services from small cities under UDAN scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Samastipur (Bihar) has been included in this scheme, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government proposes to include Samastipur under the said scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a)and (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. Airport Authority of India(AAI), the Implementing Agency has completed four rounds of bidding under UDAN and identified 766 valid RCS routes till first phase of UDAN 4.0 involving 110 RCS airports including 12 water aerodromes & 33 Helipads for operation of RCS flights. As on 27-01-2021, 311 RCS routes have already commenced connecting 47 RCS airports, 2 water aerodromes & 5 heliports.

(c) and (d): Samastipur does not figure in the tentative list of the unserved and underserved Airports of the scheme document. However, it can be included in the tentative list of UDAN scheme

document upon intimation from the State Government/UT administration concerned. UDAN is market driven scheme. The interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes submit their proposals at the time of bidding under RCS - UDAN from time to time.

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