GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1613
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13th December 2021)

STATUS OF EXPANSION OF PATNA AIRPORT

1613. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR

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

(a) whether Government earlier considered to build airport in Bihta keeping in view the boundaries of the expansion of Patna Airport;
(b) if so, the current status of the same;
(c) the number of other cities which are also proposed to be included under UDAN scheme; and
(d) the status of the construction of facilities in the cities which are to be included under the said scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) & (b): Considering the limitations of runway at Patna airport for operation of wide bodied aircraft, a Civil Enclave of capacity 5 Million Passengers Per Annum (MPPA) at Bihta has been proposed for combined use of AAI and Indian Air Force (IAF). At Bihta airport, the State Government has provided 108 acres of land to AAI. However, to make the proposed airport suitable for wide bodied aircrafts for International operations, the State Government of Bihar is required to provide 191.5 acres of land for runway extension and 8 acres for city side development, which is yet to be handed over.
(c) & (d): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country for making air travel affordable to the masses. RCS - UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes submit their proposals at the time of bidding under RCS - UDAN. Under the scheme, as on 24.11.2021, 393 routes have commenced, connecting 63 unserved and underserved airports, including 2 water aerodromes and 6 heliports. The following Airports of Bihar are included in the RCS-UDAN document- Arrah, Begusarai, Bettiah, Bhabua (Kaimoor), Bhagalpur, Bihar Shariff, Bihita, Birpur, Buxur, Chhapra, Darbhanga, Dehri On Sonn, Farbisganj, Hathwa, Jehanabad, Jogbani,

Katihar, Kishanganj, Madhubani, Monghyr, Motihari, Munger, Muzzafarpur, Naria, Panchanpur, Raxaul, Saharsa & Valmiki Nagar. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation / development for commencement of RCS operations, is developed under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme.

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