GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1618 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th December 2023)

INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF AIR SPORTS

1618. SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB

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

- (a) whether Government has recently taken any initiative in the field of air sports, including any updates or enhancements made to the existing regulatory framework
- (b) whether such initiative has been taken in the State of Tripura and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Civil Aviation has introduced National Air Sports Guidelines (NASG) 2023 to promote air sports culture in the country.

The guidelines outline key objectives of promoting air sports culture in the country, adoption of international good practices related to safe operations, developing an effective governance structure, participation in global air sports events and promoting manufacturing of air sports equipment in India, etc.

The key features of regulatory framework are as follows:

- (i) There will be a governance structure for air sports in India through Aero Club of India which will be the apex body for air sports in India and represent India globally as its National Aerosports Control (NAC).
- (ii)ACI shall provide governance on overall aspects of air sports including but not limited to regulations, certifications, competitions, awards and penalties.
- (iii) There will be an oversight on air sports by Ministry of Civil Aviation through Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI). ASFI will be chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation. For any disputes arising between/ among National Commission, State Commission, the final authority to settle the dispute will be Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI).
- (iv)ACI (NAC India) shall in collaboration with DGCA and /or BCAS lay down the safety, security, standards and maintenance for equipment, infrastructure, personnel and training etc. as per the global best practices for air sports. It shall

specify the disciplinary actions to be taken in case of deviations and willful noncompliance.

India has a high potential for air sports due to its large geographic expanse, diverse topography and different climatic zones. The NASG 2023 creates the enabling provisions for promoting air sports hubs in the country, including Tripura.
