

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1005
(To be answered on the 21st December 2017)

Expansion of Air Services

1005. SHRIMATI NEELAM SONKER

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has formulated any concrete strategy for expansion of inter-State services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch air services from Delhi to Varanasi via Azamgarh in near future under the inter-state services to provide facility to the people from Azamgarh working in good numbers in Gulf countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

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- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme on 21st October, 2016 for providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports/airstrips of the country to facilitate /stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable for common public by providing Viability Gap Funding and other concessions to the selected airline operators. The airlines are free to select airports based on their assessment of demand on particular routes and submit proposals at the time of bidding under RCS from time to time.
- (c) & (d): No, Madam. However, with repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian aviation was totally deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. In this regard Government had laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of RDG issued by Government.
