

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1599  
(To be answered on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018)**

**HELICOPTER SERVICES AT TOURIST PLACES**

**1599. DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce helicopter services at places of tourist attraction in order to promote tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the existing air travel facilities at various places of tourist interest in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to develop airports to facilitate tourism in the country?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(Shri Jayant Sinha)**

**(a) to (d)**

Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS-UDAN) with prime objective to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. Airports Authority of India (AAI), the implementing agency, has awarded 23 RCS routes/ networks to selected bidders for helicopter services covering 31 helipads/ heliports in the priority areas. However, Pawan Hans Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry, in association with the Government of Himachal Pradesh, UT Administration of Daman & Diu and the Government of Sikkim is presently providing its helicopter services which connects following tourist destinations:-

1. Shimla-Chandigarh-Shimla
2. Daman and Diu
3. Bagdogra-Gangtok-Bagdogra

Presently at 86 AAI owned and managed airports/civil enclaves and 11 JVC/state government /private airports, the scheduled/RCS flights are operating which also include connectivity to tourist destination(s).

Development of airports is a continuous process which is taken up based on traffic demand, tourism potential and other socio-economic considerations. To meet the

growing demand AAI has embarked upon a CAPEX Plan of Rs.20000 Cr. in next 4 years for development of various airports in the country, which includes major tourist places such as Goa, Srinagar, Leh, Port Blair, Agra, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Agartala, Chennai etc.

In addition, Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for revival/ development of 50 unserved/ underserved airport based on 'demand driven' approach.

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ANSWER

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(Shri Jayant Singh)

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