

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4121  
(To be answered on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019)**

**DEVELOPMENT OF ARAKKONAM AIR BASE AS AIRPORT**

**4121. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government intends to take part of the Arakkonam air base on lease from the Defence Ministry and to develop it as airport for landing and taking off small aircraft and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (b) if not, whether the Government would consider developing civil airport at Arakkonam in view of the demand for it, due to industrialization and connectivity to nearby places?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

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**(a) & (b): No such proposal to take a part of the Arakkonam air base on lease from the Defence Ministry and to develop it as airport for landing and taking off small aircraft is under consideration at present.**

**However, Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) in 2016 for promotion of Regional Connectivity by way of revival of un-served and under-served airports/airstrips in the country. The expansion of airports under the scheme is 'demand driven', depending upon firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions. Arakkonam air base has been included in the scheme under un-served category. So far, no bids under RCS have been received to commence civil flights from the air base.**

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