

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. : 28  
(To be answered on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022)**

**NEW FLIGHTS TO LAKSHADWEEP**

**\*28. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal from other airline companies except Air India to start new flights to Lakshadweep;  
(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) whether the Government has taken further initiatives to expand air travels to promote tourism in Lakshadweep and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)**

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**(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 28 REGARDING "NEW FLIGHTS TO LAKSHADWEEP" TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022.**

**(a) to (c): As per ongoing Winter Schedule-2022, M/s Alliance Air is operating 7 flights per week on Kochi-Agatti route. With the repeal of the Air Corporation Act, 1953, in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market was deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and networks they wish to service and operate across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and their commercial viability, in compliance with the relevant guidelines in this matter.**

**Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Deshka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses which includes airports/heliports/water aerodromes. In order to expand air travels to promote tourism in Lakshadweep, Ministry of Civil Aviation introduced a new mode of transportation i.e. seaplane operations from water aerodromes under the UDAN scheme.**

**Till the completion of four rounds of bidding, twenty four (24) routes involving eight (8) water aerodromes have been identified/awarded in Lakshadweep (UT) for the seaplane operation which are Kavaratti, Minicoy, Agatti, Kalpeni, Bitra, Kadmat, Kiltan, & Bangaram.**

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