

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3891
(To be answered on the 23rd March 2023)**

AIR ROUTES IN THE COUNTRY

3891. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number and details of the cities which have been connected by air route for the convenience of travellers in the country and the number and details of cities where such work is in progress;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to connect Sasaram-Rohtas by air route in Bihar, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to complete the work on this well known old route; 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

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

(a) to (d): With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic 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 with the compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) issued by Government. Hence, it is up to the airline operator for introduction of air services to / from any airport in country depending on their operational & commercial viabilities.

Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity across the country from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation / development for commencement of RCS operations, is developed under "Revival/upgradation of unserved and underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes" Scheme. As on 28.02.2023, the Selected

Airline Operators (SAOs) have operationalized 469 routes connecting 74 (unserved/underserved) airports including 9 Heliports & 2 Water Aerodromes.

Sasaram, Bihar is not available in the list of unserved Airports in UDAN Scheme document. However, the airstrip may be included in the list on the request of the State Government of Bihar, as per the provisions of UDAN Scheme document.
