

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 854
(To be answered on the 21st November 2019)**

EXTENSION OF RCS-UDAN SCHEME TO HILL STATIONS

854. SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the RCS-UDAN scheme will be extended to hill stations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether under the RCS-UDAN scheme airport in Salem will facilitate the B2B business (viability gap funding) for the retail businesses and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of airports in pipeline under RCS-UDAN scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make any policies and programmes for making our airports green instead of constructing Green airports and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a): States of Jammu & Kashmir (now Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh), Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, North Eastern Region, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands have been included as Priority Area(s) in the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). Helicopter services have also been included in the scheme for better connectivity of Priority Area(s). For Priority RCS Routes, the number of RCS Flights to be operated in a week with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) shall be a minimum of three (3) departures and a maximum of fourteen (14) departures per week from the same RCS Airport so that the RCS Flights are operated on at least three (3) days of the week.

(b): RCS routes from Chennai to Salem and back has been awarded to Selected Airline Operator (SAO) by the Implementing Agency and commenced on 25.03.2018 and VGF is being paid as per the tender document submitted by the SAO. As per the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) study- "Economic benefit of Civil Aviation: ripples of prosperity" the output and employment multiplier of Aviation are 3.25 and 6.10 respectively.

(c): The airports in pipeline under RCS-UDAN scheme in the state of Tamil Nadu are Vellore, Tanjore, Neyveli and Ramnad.

(d): In order to comply with green features, measures are taken at airports which include:

- 1.Solar Energy projects are implemented at various airports for electricity generation.**
- 2.Reduction in consumption of electricity through automation and providing sky lights & glass windows for natural lighting, wherever feasible.**
- 3.Use of high efficiency Light Emitting Diodes (LED).**
- 4.Use of BMS/IBMS for energy saving.**
- 5.Use of energy efficient equipment / systems to obtain GRIHA 4-star rating for airport terminals.**
- 6.Energy audit at Airports for conservation of energy.**
- 7.Rain water harvesting schemes at airports are being implemented for water conservation.**
- 8.Trees/ plants are planted wherever feasible.**
- 9.Recycling of waste water for gardening & cleaning purpose using Sewage Treatment Plants.**
- 10.Reducing the water usages in washroom through sensor based systems.**
- 11.Water Audit for conservation of water at Airports.**
- 12.Horticulture is done on city side and apron side.**
