

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4905
(To be answered on the 25th March 2021)**

BEKAL AIRSTRIP PROJECT

4905. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has given preliminary approval to the Bekal Airstrip project in Periya under its UDAN Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including present status of the project; and
- (c) whether the Government has appointed Cochin International Airport Ltd. (CIAL) to undertake the said project 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) to (c): Bekal airport does not figure in the tentative list of unserved/underserved airports of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme document. An airport/airstrip could be added in the tentative list of RCS airports of the Scheme document, if the State Government requests for the same. RCS-UDAN is a market driven mechanism. The interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes submit their proposals at the time of bidding under RCS - UDAN from time to time. Moreover, none of the airlines has submitted any proposal to operate RCS flights from Bekal airstrip till 4 rounds of bidding under RCS-UDAN. However, if any valid bid is received in future rounds of RCS-UDAN, the same shall be considered as per Scheme document.
