

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3152
(To be answered on the 16th December 2021)**

RCF FEES

3152. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has given any permission to the airline operators to collect Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) fees of Rs.50 from passengers which airlines have to pay in Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF); and**
(b) the number of airlines which have been granted permission from the Government to collect Rs.50 as RCS fees from the passengers for their air travel in Non-RCS routes?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. RCS - 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 RCS- UDAN. Under the scheme, besides concessions offered to Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) by Central Government, State Governments and Airport operators, Viability Gap Funding is also provided to SAOs from Regional Air Connectivity Fund for affordable UDAN flights. UDAN is a self-financing scheme. Accordingly, as per the Rule 88C of Aircraft Rules, 1937, Government of India has imposed a levy of Rs. 5000/- per flight on scheduled domestic flights on routes other than category II/IIA, Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) routes and for the aircraft below 80 seats, to fund the Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik). The levy is on each departure of the aircraft on Trunk routes, subject to certain exemptions. Thus, the airlines have to pay a levy of Rs. 5000/- per departure and it is upto the airlines how they pay this amount. Amount collected through levy is used for Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to be paid to Selected Airline for connecting the unserved and underserved airports.