

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1545  
(To be answered on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022)**

**NEW AIRPORT IN RATLAM, MADHYA PRADESH**

**1545. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) the criteria to open new airports under UDAN Scheme or any other scheme of the Ministry;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up new airport under the above mentioned schemes in Ratlam and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be considered and the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to construct airstrip at each district headquarter and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether annual maintenance of earlier constructed airstrips is carried out and if so, the responsibility fixed and steps being taken in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)**

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**(a) to (e): The 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 from unserved and underserved airports in the country and by 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 proposals at the time of bidding under RCS. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of RCS - UDAN and requires upgradation/development for commencement of RCS operations is developed under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme. An expenditure of INR 2307 Crores has been incurred on revival / up-gradation of RCS airports as on 30.11.2021.**

**Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh, figures in the list of unserved airports of the UDAN Scheme Document. However, none of the airline have so far submitted their proposal to operate RCS flights from Ratlam, in the four bidding rounds conducted under UDAN. UDAN is an ongoing scheme where bidding rounds**

**are conducted periodically for covering more destinations/stations and routes and in case, any airline submit bid for routes connecting Ratlam in future rounds of bidding, the same may be considered as per provisions in Scheme document. Airstrips are maintained by the airport operator(s) concerned. Presently, there is no proposal for construction of airstrips in each district.**

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