PERMISSION FOR PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON THE AIRSTRIPS

797.   DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्री   be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow passenger traffic on the airstrips near the tourist centers in Madhya Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to start flights at the airstrip in Seoni district in Balaghat near the Pench National Park, which receives domestic and foreign tourists in large numbers and only Government and private planes arrive there currently in view of tourism and revenue; and
(c) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री   (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c): 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 by making air travel affordable to the masses. Airports Authority of India(AAI), the implementing Agency has completed four rounds of bidding under UDAN and awarded 954 routes so far. Out of these awarded routes, 425 UDAN routes including tourism routes have already commenced connecting 68 UDAN airports including 2 water aerodromes & 8 heliports. The Ministry has recently introduced Small Aircraft Scheme (SAS) under UDAN to provide last mile connectivity including to tourist destinations across the country.

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. No airline has submitted the proposal to operate UDAN flight from Seoni Airport Madhya Pradesh till the completion of four rounds of bidding. However, if any airline submits bids for connecting Seoni, the same will be considered as per the provisions of the scheme.

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