

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1670
(To be answered on the 1st August 2024)**

AIRPORTS IN WEST BENGAL

1670. SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of civilian airports in the State of West Bengal;**
(b) the number of airports identified for air connectivity in West Bengal under UDAN Scheme; and
(c) whether the Government considers to establish an airport near the historical town of Murshidabad that would lead to promote tourism and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): There are five operational airports in the State of West Bengal: Behala, Bagdogra (a civil enclave at Air Force Station), Cooch Behar, Durgapur and Kolkata.

(b): Airports namely Durgapur, Cooch Behar, Hashimara, Kalaikunda, Burnpur and Malda have been identified in West Bengal under the UDAN scheme to operate UDAN flights. UDAN is a market driven scheme. Bids are invited by the Airports Authority of India, the Implementing Agency, wherein the interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. In case, any airline submits valid bid for operations of flights under UDAN from airports of West Bengal in future rounds of bidding, the same shall be considered as per the provisions of the Scheme document.

RCS flights operations from Durgapur & Cooch Behar have already started.

(c): Government of India (GoI) has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA) Policy, 2008 which provides detailed guidelines, procedures and steps related to construction of Greenfield airports across the Country. Under the GFA

Policy, the project proponent- an airport developer or the respective State Government willing to establish a Greenfield airport is required to send a proposal to the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) in the prescribed format available at www.civilaviation.gov.in for 2-stage process i.e., 'Site Clearance' followed by an 'In-Principle' approval. Such proposals are considered by MoCA as per the procedure stipulated in the GFA Policy. No proposal as per GFA Policy for development of Greenfield airport near the town of Murshidabad has been received in the MoCA so far.
