

air travel services for tier II and tier III (small cities) and between specific regions, Governments has introduced a separate category of Scheduled Air Transport (Regional) Services in 2007. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Civil Aviation Requirements for Schedule Regional Air Transport Service M/s LEPL Projects Ltd (Air Costa) is operating Regional Airlines in Southern region of the country. Recently, four firms have also been granted initial NOC to start Scheduled Air Transport (Regional) Services *i.e.* (i) Air Carnival (Southern Region) on 24.06.2014 (ii) ZAV Airways (North East & Eastern region) on 30.06.2014 (iii) Turbo Megha Airways Pvt. Ltd. (Southern Region) on 18.07.2014 and (iv) AAA Aviation Pvt. Ltd. (North Eastern Region) on 26.12.2014.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per draft Civil Aviation Policy, for development of the air cargo transport, six metro airports will be developed as regional cargo hubs, integrating multi modal transport facilities, cold chains and other commodity specific requirements. Government of Maharashtra has proposed to develop Nagpur Airport as an International Hub for passengers and cargo, *viz.* Multi-Modal International Hub at Nagpur (MIHAN). Government of Maharashtra has formed a special purpose vehicle company, namely Maharashtra Airport Development Co. Ltd. (MADC) for implementation of MIHAN Project.

In its behaviour to develop Nagpur Airport as an international passengers and Cargo Hub, a joint venture company by name MIHAN India Ltd.(MIL) has been formed in 2009 with MADC holding 51% stake and AAI holding 49% stake with a mandate to upgrade and modernize this airport on PPP basis by appointing a strategic partner. MIL under the control of Government of Maharashtra is operating Nagpur Airport and is responsible for undertaking further development. Since taking over of the airport MIL has upgraded the existing facilities of Nagpur Airport and has taken steps to prepare the revised master plan on the basis of present scenario of the aviation growth in India.

#### **Ayurveda training colleges**

†\*134. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to open Ayurveda training colleges to promote Ayurvedic medicines in the country; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH): (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Central Government had earlier decided to establish All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) at New Delhi and North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda & Homoeopathy (NEIAH) at Shillong in 2008.

### **Pending modernization projects of the Army**

\*135. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for pendency of several modernization projects of the Army for the last few years;
- (b) the resultant adverse impacts on the Armed Forces, if any; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to complete the modernization projects under fixed time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Pendencies in procurement cases can occur due to several reasons, such as insufficient and limited vendor base, non-conformity of offers to the Request for Proposal (RFP) conditions, field trials, complexities in contract negotiations, stakeholder consultations, lead time for indigenization etc.

(b) Government constantly reviews the security scenario and accordingly decides to induct appropriate defence equipment to keep the armed forces in a state of readiness and remaining equipped with modern weapon systems.

(c) The steps taken by Government include finalisation of Service Qualitative Requirements before seeking the Acceptance of Necessity; reduction of validity of Acceptance of Necessity to one year; delegation of Financial Powers; decisions in a collegiate manner and imposition of liquidated damages on vendors for delay in execution of contracts.

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## **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**

### **Observing of Yoga Day**

1281. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state: