

- IEC: 40,000 leaflets, 10,000 posters, banners and 8000 Standard Operating Procedure for management of cases in field distributed.

(d) Out of the sanctioned funds of ₹ 100.37 crores (₹ 80.37 crores as cash grant + ₹ 20.00 crores as commodity assistance), under National Health Mission for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases in Orissa for 2016-17, funds to the tune of ₹ 55.87 crores (₹ 52.27 crores as cash grant + ₹ 3.60 crores as commodity assistance) have been released to the Government of Odisha till 31.10.2016.

Regional Connectivity Fund

*140. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to set up Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) to subsidise regional flights connecting smaller cities; and

(b) if so, the details of the mechanism that Government plans to put in place to raise the RCF that would be used to fund air connectivity?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) and (b) A Regional Connectivity Fund has been created under powers conferred under Rule 88-B of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 to provide the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) requirements under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme which was launched on 21-10-2016 for providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports of the country. Ministry of Civil Aviation has decided to impose a levy on scheduled flights operated within India to fund Regional Air Connectivity Fund (RCF), in the following manner:

- (i) ₹ 7,500 for a stage length upto 1,000 km;
- (ii) ₹ 8,000 for a stage length more than 1,000 km. to 1,500 km. and;
- (iii) ₹ 8,500 for a stage length above 1,500 km.

However, following flights shall be exempted from the said levy:

- (i) Flights operated on CAT II/ CAT IIA routes as specified in Route Dispersal Guidelines issued under Rule 134 (1A).
- (ii) Flights operated on Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) routes.
- (iii) Flights operated with aircraft having maximum certified take off mass not exceeding 40,000 kg.

The payment of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) will be made to the Airline Operator from the RCF and the share of State Governments is 20% for states other than for North-Eastern States and Union Territories of India, where the ratio will be 10% towards VGF for respective RCS Routes. For balanced regional growth, the allocations under the scheme would be equitably spread across the five geographical regions of the country viz. North, West, South, East and Northeast.

Amount to be raised through disinvestment

*141. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plans offload upto 3% stake worth ₹ 4000 crores held in the specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India, in Private engineering company, Larsen and Toubro (L&T);

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that around ₹ 60,000 crores are expected to be raised through the disinvestment process in the next two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the list of stakes proposed to be disinvested by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) It was decided that Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI) may divest upto 3% shares of the total shares of L&T in the market on 4.11.2016. Accordingly, a total number of 1,48,23,702 shares of Larson and Toubro Ltd. (1.62% of the equity capital of the company) was sold through bulk trade during the normal market hours on 4th November, 2016. Government has received an amount of ₹ 2096.35 crore from this transaction.

(c) and (d) The Budget Estimate (BE) for disinvestment for the FY 2016-17 is ₹ 56,500 crore. As on 15th November, 2016, Government has realized an amount of ₹ 23,497.19 crore from disinvestment. As a part of the strategy to keep shares readily available for transaction to take advantage of market conditions without any loss of time, the Government has identified some CPSEs for minority stake sale in sectors like mineral and metal, oil, capital goods as well as some mid-size and small stocks along with strategic holdings of SUUTI.

Easwar panel report

*142. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received the second report of Easwar Panel;