

the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of RDG issued by the Government.

MoU signed under RCS-UDAN Scheme

2098. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has signed any MoU with the Ministry for the implementation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS-UDAN) to develop airports and to provide affordable air travel to common man;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of assistance provided so far by the Ministry to the Government of Maharashtra for the proper implementation of RCS-UDAN scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Government of Maharashtra has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India (AAI) to provide various concessions envisioned in the scheme. The primary objective of RCS is to facilitate/stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. Promoting affordability of Regional air connectivity is envisioned under RCS by supporting airline operators through (i) concessions by Central Government, State Governments and airport operators to reduce the cost of airline operations on regional routes and (ii) financial support (viability gap funding or VGF) to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such routes. VGF will be shared between Ministry of Civil Aviation and the State Government in the ratio of 80:20 whereas for the States in North Eastern Region/UTs, the ratio will be 90:10.

Flight service from Bhagalpur

†2099. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to start flight service from Bhagalpur in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme on 21-10-2016 for providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports of the country. However, development of regional air connectivity routes is left to market forces, so that airlines undertake assessment of demand and nature of supply required on a particular route.

Sharing of trained staff by airlines for security related roles

2100. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed allowing airlines to share trained staff for various security related roles at airport;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a common security pool will help airlines to reduce costs by utilising trained staff from other airlines;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this type of arrangement in other countries worked very well known as buddy system; and

(d) whether Government has made any consultation with the airlines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) The National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016 provides for sharing of security staff of one airline with another airline. Consultation on this issue has already been carried out with stakeholders for amendments to Aircraft (Security) Rules, 2011. No study of such system of other country has been conducted.

Suspension of license of Indigo's Aviation Security Training Centre

2101. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has suspended the licence of Indigo's Aviation Security Training Centre; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The approval granted by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), the regulatory authority for civil aviation security in the