

(c) whether Government proposes to set up Yoga Universities and de-addiction centres across the country; and

d) if so, the details thereof, along with the time by which the said universities and de-addiction centres are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes. The techniques of Yoga are widely used for de-addiction and rehabilitation of drug users in de-addiction centres. Yoga helps in the de-addiction and rehabilitation of the drug users in de-addiction centres. The yogic protocol includes specific Asanas, Pranayamas, Shatkriyas and Meditation.

(b) The Ministry of AYUSH has not set up specific de-addiction centres and Yoga Universities due to the fact that the yogic techniques are widely used in most of the existing de-addiction centres and the setting up of Yoga Universities is not under the purview of this Ministry.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with Ministry of AYUSH to set up Yoga Universities and also de-addiction centres.

#### **Air service from cities in Bihar**

†2409. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken any decision to start air services from several places of the country to save the time of common people, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the flight operation from several airports in Bihar like Darbhanga, Purnia, Muzaffarpur etc. is also going to start soon; and

(c) if so, by when and whether any timelimit has been fixed, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) With repeal of Air Corporation Act in March, 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was deregulated. Airlines free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. Government has however, laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services of different regions of the country. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, has launched RCS-UDAN scheme on 21-10-2016 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).

The following airports from Bihar have been included in the tentative list of un-served and under-served airports under RCS:—

Arrah, Begusarai, Bettiah, Bhabua, Bhagalpur, Bhowrah, Bihar Shariff, Bihita, Birpur, Buxur, Chhapra, Dalbhandarh, Darbhanga, Dehri, Giridhi, Hathwa, Jehanabad, Jogbani, Katihar, Kishanganj, Kursela, Madhtibani, Monghyr, Motihari, Munger, Muzzafarpur, Naria, Panchanpur, Purnea, Raxaul, Safiabab and Saharsa.

However, RCS-UDAN is a demand driven scheme where the interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes can submit proposals at the time of bidding under RCS from time-to-time.

#### **Foreign airlines services on domestic routes**

2410. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to allow foreign airlines to provide services on domestic routes, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of the foreign airlines who have submitted fresh proposals to operate on domestic routes; and

(c) the details of the benefits that would accrue to them and the losses that would accrue to the domestic airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Fresh bids for Jaipur and Ahmedabad airports**

2411. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government is going for fresh bids for the Jaipur and Ahmedabad airports, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Yes Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has issued Request