

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) As per Winter Schedule 2018, no Scheduled direct flights are available between Bhubaneswar and Surat.

With repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. In this regard, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport service of different regions of the country. It is, however, 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 Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

#### **Running of small airstrips by AAI**

2258. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government will bear entire operational cost and engagement of personnel for running of State owned small airstrips through Airports Authority of India (AAI) under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) except security and fire services arrangement which could be provided by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): No Sir. However, the expenditure involved in infrastructure upgradation at State-owned airport for RCS operation is reimbursed by the Government of India under "Revival of Airport" scheme linked to UDAN bidding process.

#### **Flight duty time limitations of the pilots**

2259. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law which allows pilots to fly for more than eight hours;

(b) whether there is deliberate variations in flight duty time limitations of the pilots resulting in fatigue;

(c) whether there is any law which can save the pilots from fatigue; and

(d) if so, the number of cases when pilots were required to fly for more than eight hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) There is no deliberate variations in flight duty time limitations of the pilots. Under the provisions of ICAO Annex 6 Part I, State of the operator is required to establish regulations for the purpose of managing fatigue of flight crew. Accordingly, DGCA has issued CAR Section 7 Series J Part III on Flight and Duty Time Limitations and Rest Requirements of flight crew. Under the provisions of para 6.1 and para 7.1 of CAR, pilots are allowed to fly more than eight hours as per the conditions stipulated therein such as crew complement, number of landings, day/night operations, domestic and neighbouring country operations, international operations.

**Inclusion of routes under UDAN scheme in Rajasthan**

2260. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to include more routes under UDAN scheme;

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

(c) whether any route touching the State of Rajasthan is proposed to be included under UDAN scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) (a) to (d) Government has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) to facilitate/stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable.

RCS-UDAN is market driven mechanism. Development of regional air connectivity routes is left to market forces such that airlines undertake assessment of demand and nature of supply required on particular routes and lead the process under RCS.

Routes awarded under RCS-UDAN connecting the State of Rajasthan are given in the Statement.