

Construction of small airports in Chhattisgarh

†309. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal of constructing small airports in various district headquarters of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the districts selected for this purpose along with the present status and the details thereof; and
- (d) by when these airports are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir. At present no such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Building of small airports at district headquarters of various States

310. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any project proposal to build small airports at district headquarters of various States in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details and current status thereof, State-wise, including Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir. At present no such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Focus on iconic destination and religious circuits by UDAN-3

311. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that UDAN-3 is going to focus on iconic destinations and some of the religious circuits;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that UDAN-3 is also going to connect to international destinations; and

(c) if so, the details of (a) and (b) above, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) version 3.0, 46 Tourism routes have been awarded on request of Ministry of Tourism.

(b) and (c) With reference to Andhra Pradesh, tourism route of Rajamundry - Vishakhapatnam and *vice-versa* have been awarded under RCS - UDAN version 3.0 and routes connecting Kadapa airport to Chennai, Hyderabad and Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh have been awarded under RCS- UDAN version 1. Under UDAN(International) Guwahati-Bangkok and Guwahati-Dhaka proposal are awarded.

Operation of airports in Darbhanga, Purnea and Bhagalpur

312. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new airports have been announced for Bihar and work in Darbhanga, Purnea and Bhagalpur has commenced in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the air operation will commence from Darbhanga and other places within the stipulated time-frame and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No new Greenfield Airport has been announced for the State of Bihar. However, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken steps to develop existing airstrips/ airports at Darbhanga and Purnea. Darbhanga and Purnea airports belong to Indian Air Force (IAF) and AAI has awarded works for runway, taxiway, interim terminal building and allied works at Darghanga Airport under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS). Further, for the development of Purnea Airport, AAI has projected a requirement of 50 acres of land to the State Government of Bihar. Bhagalpur airport belongs to State Government of Bihar and so far no airlines have expressed their interest to operate from the airport under RCS -UDAN, as such the Government has no plan to develop the airport.