(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether it is also a fact that AAI will be monitoring block timings followed by various airlines during peak and non-peak hours and in different parts of the year; and

(d)   if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has put in place an institutional mechanism to monitor actual flight performance to three constraint airports, *viz.,* Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru for a period of one year. The study will monitor actual departure and arrival times to the three airports. Based on which, AAI will submit a comprehensive road map for resolving all the issues identified during the course of study to the Ministry and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. During the course of year long study, AAI will also monitor and log actual block timings followed by various airlines at various periods of the day. AAI will share the data of actual flying time between city pairs with DGCA for rationalization of block timings.

Operationalisation of Veer Surendra Sai Airport at Jharsuguda

1105. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that the Veer Surendra Sai Airport at Jharsuguda in Odisha still remains inoperative though inaugurated by Prime Minister on 22nd September, 2018, if so, the reasons therefor and the remedies thereto; and

(b)   whether Government would start a direct flight from Jharsuguda to New Delhi by Air India or any other airline operator and direct flight from Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar to cities like Pune, Ahmedabad, Shirdi and Port Blair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Jharsuguda Airport was inaugurated on 22.09.2018 under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN version 1. Routes connecting Jharsuguda airport awarded to Air Odisha were cancelled due to poor performance and taken up for bidding under UDAN version 3. 6 routes connecting Jharsuguda airport to Kolkata,

Bhubaneshwar, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Delhi and Raipur airport were awarded under UDAN version 3 on 25.01.2019.

(b)   With repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian airline industry 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. Further, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better air transport services of different regions of the country. It is therefore, 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. However, under UDAN-3, route connecting Delhi and Jharsuguda has been awarded to a schedule airline and the airline will commence the operations as per terms of agreement under UDAN.

Plan to bring another version of UDAN scheme

†1106. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that Government encouraged by the success of UDAN scheme (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) is planning to bring forth another version of this scheme;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether it is also a fact that the States will now have an option to grant subsidy for international flights in regions where such services are scarce but huge possibility of a large market for such services have emerged; and

(d)   if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has recently launched UDAN-International, after extensive consultation with the stakeholders for the Government of Assam. However, this template would be applicable for other States too and whenever Ministry of Civil Aviation receive the proposals, subsequent bidding may be conducted or the State Governments can go ahead on its own, with this template. UDAN-International is the State Government led mechanism where financial support is provided by the State Government concerned. The Government of Assam

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.