

of foreign country and issue of traffic rights granted by Ministry of Civil Aviation. Indian carriers can operate from any points in India to any foreign destinations in other countries as per agreed bilateral traffic rights. However, Commencing of operation on any specific route depends on the commercial judgement, route viability, availability of aircrafts and other resources of airlines.

Construction of new airports

†1263. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Central Government is constructing new airports in order to make flying services accessible and provide connectivity to every citizen and whether the new international airports are being built to connect air services with international air services, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): Government of India has granted 'in principle' approval for setting up of 21 Greenfield Airports across the country including 9 international airports namely Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Sindhudurg and Shirdi in Maharashtra, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hassan and Shimoga in Karnataka, Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Datia in Gwalior, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Hirasar in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry, Dagadarthi, Bhogapuram and Oravakal in Andhra Pradesh and Holongi, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh. Greenfield Airports at Shirdi, Kannur, Durgapur and Pakyong have already been operationalized. Further, in addition to above, Government of India has granted 'site clearance' approval for setting up of 6 Greenfield Airports across the country namely Machiwara in Ludhiana, Jamshedpur in Jharkhand, Alwar (Bhiwadi) in Rajasthan, Kothagudem, Dist. Khammam in Telangana, Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh and Purandar in Pune. Development of airports into international airports is a continuous process which depends upon commercial viability, traffic demand, requests from airline operators, availability of land etc.

Besides, Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) in 2016 for promotion of Regional Connectivity by way of revival of un-served and under-served airports/airstrips, helipads of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India, Civil Enclaves and CPSUs through a Budgetary support of ₹4500 crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.