

- (b) if so, whether some vested interest are not allowing to open the airport;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any deadline has been fixed for opening of Hosur airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) The existing airstrip at Hosur is owned and operated by M/s Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Limited (TAAL) as a private airstrip and is located at a distance of 45 kms. from Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (BIAL). As per the provisions of Concession Agreement between Ministry of Civil Aviation and BIAL, no new or existing airports (except for Mysore and Hassan airports and that too for domestic purpose only) are permitted to be developed as, or improved or upgraded into, a Domestic Airport/International Airport within an aerial distance of 150 kilometres of the Bengaluru Airport before the twenty-fifth anniversary of its opening date which is 24th May, 2008.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir. No deadline has been fixed by Ministry of Civil Aviation for opening of Hosur airport.

Dues owed to AAI by foreign airlines

2710. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether out of ₹ 2189.68 crore, which is due to Airports Authority of India (AAI), how much amount is owed by foreign airlines;
- (b) the details of the amount owed and on what head; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government in recovering them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Out of total traffic outstanding dues of ₹ 2189.68 crore owed by airlines to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) as on 31.05.2019, ₹ 284.84 crore are owed by foreign airlines. The dues are owed under 'traffic' head.

- (c) AAI takes the following steps for recovery of pending dues from airlines:—
 - (i) Regular follow up with airlines to clear their dues as per Credit Policy.
 - (ii) In case of delay, AAI issues notice to airlines to settle the dues.

(iii) Penal interest is charged on account of delay in settlement of dues as per Credit Policy.

(iv) In case where delay persists, besides encashment of the security deposit, the operation of airline is put on cash and carry basis.

Legal course of action is also followed in case over dues persist.

Performance and financial progress of UDAN scheme

2711. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of UDAN scheme for regional connectivity both in terms of performance and financial progress;

(b) whether Government has achieved the desired result, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has cancelled some licenses issued under the scheme, if so, the details thereof together with the reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) 27 Networks in first round of bidding, 90 Networks in second round of bidding and 95 Networks in third round of bidding were awarded under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) involving 705 RCS routes. 186 RCS routes have been commenced connecting 40 RCS airports. Out of these, nine RCS-UDAN networks have been cancelled/terminated due to default by Selected Airline Operators (SAOs). Viability Gap Funding of INR 250 crores (approximately) have been disbursed to SAOs under RCS-UDAN.

(c) No. Sir. However, the Implementing Agency has cancelled/terminated some of the routes/networks awarded to SAOs due to their default under RCS-UDAN.

Crisis face by Jet Airways employees

2712. MS. DOLA SEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 20,000 employees of Jet Airways are facing an unprecedented crisis today since they have not been paid their salaries and wages all of a sudden and neither has the airlines made any provision for gratuity or full and final settlements or compensation, which is completely against the law of the land of the country; and