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

(c) the action taken by Government for safe landing of flights at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) and (b) Laser lights are regulated under the provisions of Rule 65 & 66 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. To ensure the safety of the aircraft against hazardous effects of laser emitters, DGCA has. established the following protected zones around aerodromes :-

(i) A laser beam free flight zone (LFFZ)

(ii) A laser beam critical flight zone (LCFZ)

(iii) A laser beam sensitive flight zone (LSFZ)

(c) The aerodrome operator of IGI airport has established laser protected zones for the airport as per directions of DGCA, Further,, orders for banning use of laser lights in and around IGI Airport are issued on a regular basis by SDM, Vasant Vihar and Delhi police.

Abolition/reduction in UDF and other charges

†3498. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on a proposal seeking the abolition or reduction in User Development Fee (UDF) and other surcharges being imposed by the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the steps being taken by Government to provide an affordable air travel; and

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to recompensate the increasing loss of Government and private airlines, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government of India has established Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) to determine the tariffs in respect of aeronautical services provided at major

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

airports in the country. AERA determines aeronautical tariff including User Development Fee (UDF) based on traffic projection made by an airport operator for a given control period of five years, fair rate of return on investment and provisions to meet operation and maintenance cost. While determining the tariff AERA consults all the stakeholders including Airport operators, Airlines, Passenger association etc.

(c) No, Sir.

Routes in Jharkhand under RCS-UDAN

3499. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many routes have been allocated under the RCS-UDAN scheme in the country;

(b) if so, how many routes have been allocated in Jharkhand to connect with the nearby cities under the UDAN scheme;

(c) whether Government will plan to increase the routes under the UDAN scheme to connect Jharkhand with more cities in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) Yes Sir. A total of 706 RCS routes connecting small cities of the country have been awarded under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (*Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik*).

(b) In the first and second rounds of bidding under RCS - UDAN , the following routes in Jharkhand were awarded to various Selected Airline Operators:

(i) Jamshedpur - Kolkata

(ii) Bokaro - Kolkata

(iii) Bokaro - Patna

(iv) Dumka - Kolkata

(v) Dumka - Ranchi

Airports Authority of India, the Implementing Agency, has also issued Letter of Intent to the Selected Airline Operator for Hazaribagh - Kolkata in third round of bidding under RCS-UDAN subject to suitability of the Airport.