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3.	A200	MICRO	Asteria Aerospace Pvt. Ltd.
4.	Insight	SMALL	Aarav Unmanned Systems Pvt. Ltd.
5.	Ninja	MICRO	ideaForge Technology Pvt. Ltd.
6.	Agribot UAV (AGUAV)	SMALL	IoTechWorld Avigation Pvt. Ltd.

### **'Digi Yatra' programme**

2569. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the 'DiGi Yatra' programme;
- (b) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) has run pilot projects for 'DiGi Yatra', if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of people who joined the programme, airport-wise;
- (d) the number of people who have deleted their 'DiGi Yatra' IDs; and
- (e) whether Aadhaar is mandatory for 'DiGi Yatra'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Digi Yatra policy has been launched by Ministry of Civil Aviation in August, 2018 which intends to provide seamless and hassle-free passenger experience at Indian airports, without the need for verification of ticket and ID at multiple touch points. As regards Digi Yatra initiative, Airports Authority of India has awarded work for implementation of Biometric Boarding System (BBS) at 04 airports viz. Kolkata, Pune, Vijayavada and Varanasi. Tender for Central Digi Yatra platform for passenger identity management has also been floated by 'Digi Yatra Foundation' JV formed for the purpose to manage Digi Yatra ID(DYID) platform.

- (c) and (d) Do not arise as the Digi Yatra registration is yet to commence.
- (e) No, Sir.

### **Problems faced by civil aviation industry**

2570. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government noticed that in spite of having abundant expansion opportunities and domestic aviation market, the industry is not growing as per the demand and expectations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the private operators are not venturing into civil aviation market freely due to stringent procedures; and

(d) whether Government has analysed why all the private operators in civil aviation sector are running their business in losses and how to improve the aviation sector, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) As per Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the growth in domestic passenger traffic in the last three years has been 23.2% in Calendar Year (CY) 2016, 17.3% in CY 2017 and 18.6% in CY 2018.

During the period Jan-Oct 2019, the growth in domestic passenger traffic has been 3.1%.

The reduction in growth rate is due to, *inter alia*,

(i) Slow GDP growth in FY 2019-20

(ii) Exit of Jet Airways

(iii) Capacity constraint at leading airports

(c) Private operators are venturing in the Indian civil aviation market. Several airlines have placed large aircraft orders. All leading airports have made plans for expansion projects.

Swiss company Zurich International Airport AG has emerged as the highest bidder for a new airport in Jewar in Greater Noida, near Delhi.

(d) The following measures, *inter-alia*, have been taken to improve the aviation sector:

(i) In-principle approval for leasing of six airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) accorded, out

of which Letter of Award for leasing the airports of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru has been issued by AAI.

- (ii) Rationalized taxes on jet fuel by many States, exempted Customs Duty on tools and toolkits, reduced GST on various spare parts, accessories and consumables
- (iii) Enabled swift transition of aircraft of Jet Airways to other airlines
- (iv) Contract for e-governance in DGCA (e-GCA) has been awarded
- (v) Five-year restriction on new airlines for flying on international routes removed.
- (vi) Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) Scheme launched to enhance regional connectivity
- (vii) Many greenfield airports have commenced development work and many existing airports have commenced expansion projects
- (viii) AAI has embarked upon a capital investment of over INR 25,000 crore in next five years for development/ upgradation/ modernization of various airports and air navigation infrastructure.

#### **FDI in MRO operators**

2571. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Domestic MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) operators are paying more taxes than the imported MRO operations;
- (b) if so, the details of GST rate charged on Domestic MRO operators and rate of taxes levied on import fees of MRO services;
- (c) whether Government has failed to bring anticipated FDI in MRO operations in domestic routes; and
- (d) if so, the details of bids filed and foreign operators approved for domestic operations in the last three years?