## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

### Rajya Sabha

### **UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 943**

#### TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6th December 2021

#### PROMOTION OF AIRCRAFT EXPANSION PROGRAMME

#### 943. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote Aircraft Expansion Program in small cities across the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details of new steps being taken in this regard; and
- (c) whether Government to make air services operational especially in Dausa, Alwar, SawaiMadhopur, Dungarpur and Sri Ganganagar and between the capitals of other States of the country, if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

# Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) and (b): There is no such Aircraft Expansion Program run by the Government. However, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country and by making air travel affordable to the masses.

UDAN is a market driven Scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes submit proposals at the time of bidding under RCS. Bikaner, Kishangarh, Uterlai, Kota and Jaisalmer have been identified in the State of Rajasthan under UDAN scheme. UDAN flights have commenced from Bikaner, Kishangarh and Jaisalmer.

(c): No valid bid has been received for operations of UDAN flights from Dausa, Alwar, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Ganganagar and Dungarpur till completion of the fourth round of bidding under the scheme.

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