

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 235
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20th December 2021)

PROPOSAL FOR AIRPORT FOR NORTH GUJARAT

*235. SHRI DINESHCHANDRA JEMALBHAI
ANAVADIYA

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

- (a) whether any airport project is proposed for North Gujarat under the project UDAN, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is no facility of airlines available in North Gujarat except in Ahmedabad, due to which passengers over there have to travel long distances; and
- (c) whether Deesa Airport would be made operational so that passengers of North Gujarat can get airline facility?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 235 REGARDING "PROPOSAL FOR AIRPORT FOR NORTH GUJARAT" TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021.

(a) to (c): 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 their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. Under UDAN, 73 routes have been awarded in the State of Gujarat connecting Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Kandla, Porbandar, Mundra, Sabarmati River Front (Water Aerodrome), Statue of Unity (Water Aerodrome), Keshod, Mithapur, Shatrunjay Dam (Water Aerodrome). Out of 73 awarded routes, 49 routes have been operationalized, so far.

Deesa Airport of Gujarat is available in the tentative list of unserved airports in the UDAN Document. However, no airline has submitted a proposal to operate flights from Deesa Airport till the bidding commenced on 12.03.2021 under UDAN 4.1. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation / development for commencement of RCS operations, is developed under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme.

After repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they wish to operate across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and their commercial viability, in compliance with the relevant guidelines in this matter.
