GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3524 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th April 2022)

RASGOVINDPUR AIRPORT UNDER UDAN SCHEME

3524. DR. PRASHANTA NANDA SMT MAMATA MOHANTA

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal or will consider the demand to develop Rasgovindpur airstrip in Mayurbhani district of Odisha, into an airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with the proposal of developing this airstrip which is lying unused for a long time;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken up this issue with the Defence Ministry;
- (d) whether a No Objection Certificate (NOC) request is pending with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to start air services from Rasgovindpur Airport under the UDAN scheme;
- (e) if so, the present status thereof; and
- (f) by when Government would start commercial air services from this airport?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (f): Amarda (Rasgovindpur) airstrip belonging to Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Ministry of Defence (MoD), is included in the UDAN scheme document. Bhubaneshwar to Amarda (Rasgovindpur) and viceversa route was offered as State sponsored route under bidding round ÚDAN 4.1 and Airports Authority of India(AAI), the Implementing Agency, received one bid. State Government of Odisha sought permission of MoD to use Amarda airstrip for operations under UDAN. Ministry of Civil Aviation also requested MoD on 07.03.2022 to consider the request of Government of Odisha for granting permission to develop a Civil Enclave at Amarda airstrip. The DRDO has recommended and submitted the proposal to MoD for grant of 'No Objection' to Government of Odisha for use of Amarda Airstrip in Mayurbhani District, Odisha and working permission to develop Civil Enclave at Amarda Airstrip.

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.