

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 3541
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th April 2022)**

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FROM NORTH EASTERN STATES

3541. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce international flights from different airports of North Eastern States under the Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN);
- (b) if so, the number of such international flights proposed to different neighbouring countries from North Eastern States under UDAN with details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to improve the different airports of North Eastern States to international standard for international flights, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched International Air Connectivity Scheme (IACS) scheme (International Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik(UDAN)) with an objective to enhance air connectivity from certain States of the country with selected international destinations to promote socio-economic growth. This scheme is supported by the State Governments. The State Government of Assam, Manipur and Tripura have identified routes connecting Guwahati, Imphal and Agartala with selected international destinations viz. Bangkok, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Yangon, Hanoi, Mandalay, Kunming & Chittagong.

(c): Development and up-gradation of airports to international standards is a continuous process and is undertaken by concerned airport operators from time to time depending upon commercial viability, traffic demand, availability of land etc.

As on date, there are two international airports in the North East Region at Guwahati and Imphal which are operated by Guwahati International Airport Limited (GIAL) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) respectively. GIAL and

AAI both have undertaken construction of New Integrated Terminal Building (NITB) and other associated works at their respective airports to improve services including, increase in passenger handling capacity. In addition, AAI has taken up the following development works to boost international connectivity to/from North Eastern Region:-

i) The new terminal building at Agartala Airport has been designed as integrated terminal keeping in view the future requirement for international operation.

ii) Construction of a New Integrated Terminal Building for 2.4 Million Passengers Per Annum (MPPA), at a cost of around Rs.500 crore , has been undertaken at Imphal Airport to augment passenger handling capacity, which has been declared as an International airport.
