

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 787

(To be answered on the 17th September 2020)

STEPS TO REVIVE AVIATION INDUSTRY

787. SHRI T. R. BAALU

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

(a) the steps taken by the Government to revive the Aviation Industry in the light of loss of about 3 million jobs and more than \$11 billion revenue in aviation and related industries in India this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to tackle the problem of the growth of airline capacity in India far outstripping demand at economic prices, placing the viability of fleet plans and entire carriers in doubt?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) & (b) All efforts have been made to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the aviation sector, Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include inter-alia:

1. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been restarted in a calibrated manner. Initially only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on. 26 Jun 2020 and then to on 02 sep 2020.
2. Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.
3. Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include **Afghanistan**, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.
4. Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
5. Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminals at all major airports were operational, whenever required.
6. GST rate reduced to 5% for domestic Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services.
7. Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in International air cargo traffic.

8. Route rationalisation in the Indian airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel burn.