

Record of Discussions during Video Conferencing (VC) held on 18.11.2019 at 1700 Hours under the Chairpersonship of JS (UP), MoCA with the Principal Secretaries / Secretaries / Directors of Civil Aviation belonging to State Governments of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand regarding the preparedness of the State Governments for NSOP Flight Operations of Helicopters under RCS-UDAN.

A Video Conferencing (VC) was held on 18.11.2019 at 1700 Hours under the Chairpersonship of Mrs. Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary, MoCA with the Principal Secretaries / Secretaries / Directors of Civil Aviation belonging to State Governments of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand regarding the preparedness of the State Governments for NSOP Flight Operations of Helicopters under RCS-UDAN.

List of Senior Officials of MoCA, BCAS, PHL, RCS Cell, AAI, State Governments and Helicopter Operators who attended the VC meeting is given at **Annexure - 1**.

At the outset, Mrs. Usha Padhee, JS, MoCA welcomed all the participants present during the VC and stated that the Video Conference is being held to seek feedback from the State Governments of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand regarding their preparedness for NSOP Operations of Helicopters under RCS-UDAN and status of compliance with the Guidelines issued by the MoCA. Record of Discussions held during VC with the representatives of State Governments and decisions taken thereon are as under:

JS (UP), MoCA intimated that during RCS-UDAN-2.0 Bidding Round, 31 Helicopter Routes were awarded to various Helicopter Operators. These Helicopter Routes were required to provide air connectivity to five State Governments, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Uttarakhand. All these five States are located in remote areas with hilly terrains where the transportation by road is very difficult due to geographical conditions and weather constraints. The Chairperson enquired about the level of preparedness with regard to infrastructure and other requirements as per the Guidelines issued by MoCA to start Helicopter Operations under NSOP for RCS-UDAN. Interaction with State Governments has been as recorded below:

GOVT. OF HIMACHAL PRADESH:

Dr. Srikant Baldi, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh was present during the VC. The Chief Secretary informed the following to MoCA:

- a. NleT for Heliport work has been finalized and the work will be started soon.
- b. Manali could be utilized for Helicopter Operations.
- c. The Heliport work at Annadale Heliport, Shimla is in progress and it should be ready by February, 2020.
- d. To provide additional air connectivity to Shimla, more flights should be started from Delhi.
- e. Regular flight connectivity should be provided between Chandigarh to Manali and back.
- f. Technical Assistance and support of M/s Pawan Hans Ltd. (PHL) should be provided to State Government for early readiness of the Heliports.

Decisions:

It was intimated by MoCA to Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh that:

- i. The regular flights of M/s Alliance Air between Delhi to Shimla and back will continue in future also. In addition, options would be explored with Dornier DO-228 flights to provide additional flight connectivity between Delhi to Shimla and back in future depending upon commercial viability.
- ii. PHL is a PSU under MoCA and the services of PHL for Technical Assistance and support will be available to State Government as and when required on payment basis.

GOVT. OF ASSAM:

Shri Razvee Hussain, Secretary, Civil Aviation, Govt. of Assam was present during the VC and he informed the following to MoCA:

- a. Air connectivity to Nagaon is urgently required.
- b. Air connectivity to Tezpur from Guwahati and back is considered essential.
- c. Govt. of Assam is making all efforts to set up heliports to provide air connectivity by Helicopter to Tezpur, Guwahati, Jorhat and Lilabari.

Decisions:

- i. MoCA would examine the air connectivity issues under RCS-UDAN-4.0.
- ii. PHL is directed to commence NSOP Operations for Assam Government under UDAN.

GOVT. OF MANIPUR:

Mrs. Mercina R. Panmei, Secretary, Civil Aviation, Govt. of Manipur was present during the VC and she informed the following to MoCA:

- a. M/s Global Vectra Helicopters have some financial issues with the State Government to provide Helicopter services. As such, PHL should start NSOP Operations under UDAN.
- b. The details regarding readiness of the heliports in Manipur will be sent to MoCA shortly.

Decisions:

- i. PHL is directed to start NSOP Operations for Manipur Government under UDAN.
- ii. Manipur Government is requested to prepare the Heliports for NSOP Operations.

GOVT. OF UTTARAKHAND:

Ms. Sonika, Addl. CEO, Civil Aviation, Govt. of Uttarakhand was present during the VC and she informed the following to MoCA:

- a. Check List for Gaucher Helipad has been prepared by the State Government and the same shall be shared with MoCA for suggestion/ feedback, if any.

- b. M/s Heritage Aviation and PHL are being requested to carry out the inspection of facilities at various helipads of Uttarakhand for Helicopter Operations under UDAN.
- c. Technical Assistance and support of PHL should be provided to Uttarakhand Government for early readiness of the Heliports.
- d. Helipad of LBS Academy, Mussoorie could be utilized for commercial operation of Helicopters to provide connectivity to Mussoorie.
- e. Support of MoCA is requested to train Fire and Security Personnel to be deployed at Helipads of Uttarakhand.
- f. MoCA is requested to provide Helicopter connectivity between Sahashatradhara to Haldwani and back.

Decisions:

It was intimated by MoCA to Uttarakhand Govt. that:

- i. PHL is a PSU under MoCA and the services of PHL for Technical Assistance and support will be available to State Government as and when required on payment basis.
- ii. The office of Airport Director, AAI, Dehradun may be approached for training of Fire and Security Personnel to be deployed at Helipads of Uttarakhand. Necessary instructions in this regard will be issued by MoCA to BCAS and AAI.

GOVT. OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH:

Shri Priyam Bor Thakur, Asst. Director, Civil Aviation, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh was present during the VC and he informed the following to MoCA:

- a. At present, M/s Skyone Airways is providing Helicopter services to State Government as per MHA Guidelines.
- b. With regard to development of Heliports in Arunachal Pradesh, the cost of Civil Works is higher due to Geographical reasons as compared to the cost indicated in Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by PHL. Necessary email in this regard has been sent to PHL on 08.11.2019. MoCA is requested to advise PHL accordingly to recalculate cost of Civil Works for Arunachal Pradesh.
- c. The financial condition of the state is not very sound and there are monetary constraints. As such, MoCA is requested to grant advance money to Arunachal Pradesh to develop heliports as per DPR submitted by PHL.
- d. Yingkiong Heliport is required to be developed by the State Government, but there are constraints. Necessary details will be sent to MoCA soon.
- e. Tezu Airport is ready and flights under RCS-UDAN should be started to provide connectivity to the State.

Decisions:

It was intimated by MoCA to Arunachal Pradesh Govt. that:

- i. For grant of advance money to Arunachal Pradesh to develop heliports as per DPR submitted by PHL, the State Government is requested to send their proposal to MoCA and Chairman, AAI for suitable action.
- ii. With regard to higher cost of Civil Works to develop Heliport due to Geographical location, the State Government is requested to send their proposal at the earliest to PHL and MoCA so that the matter could be resolved soon.
- iii. M/s Skyone Airways is not responding to commence Helicopter Operations under UDAN. RCS Cell, AAI should take necessary action in this regard and decide the matter.

The VC ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair and all the participants.

Members who attended Video Conferencing held on 18.11.2019 at 1700 Hours under the Chairpersonship of JS (UP), MoCA with the Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of Civil Aviation belonging to State Governments of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand regarding the Guidelines for NSOP Flight Operations of Helicopters under RCS-UDAN.

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5	Shri Razvee Hussain, Secretary, CA	Govt. of Assam
6	Mrs. Mercina R. Panmei, Secretary, CA	Govt. of Manipur
7	Ms. Sonika, Addl. CEO, CA	Govt. of Uttarakhand
8	Shri Priyam Bor Thakur, Asst. Director, CA	Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
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