GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 817
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25th July 2022

SEAPLANE AND HELICOPTER ROUTES UNDER UDAN SCHEME

817. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO

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

(a) the seaplane routes sanctioned so far under the RCS-UDAN scheme and guidelines issued thereon;

(b) operational status of each of above routes;

(c) list of aerodromes sanctioned and status of construction, cost, agency etc. aerodromewise;

(d) helicopter routes sanctioned and made operational under the scheme and guidelines framed thereon;

(e) responses received for seaplane and helicopter services;

(f) whether there are any seaplane and helicopter UDAN services sanctioned to operate from passenger cruise terminals in different ports of the country, details thereof; **and**

(g) whether Government is willing to consider proposals for UDAN seaplane and helicopter operations from Visakhapatnam cruise terminal and the process to be followed?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has introduced seaplane operations from water aerodromes under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). Airports Authority of India (AAI), the implementing agency has awarded 14 Water Aerodromes under UDAN across the country, namely, (a) Sardar Sarovar Dam (Statue of Unity), Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad (b) Swaraj Dweep (Havelock Island), Shaheed Dweep (Neill Island), Long Island, Port Blair in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, (c) Guwahati riverfront and Umrangso

Reservoir in Assam (d) Nagarjuna Sagar Dam in Telangana (e) Prakasam Barrage in Andhra Pradesh and (f) Minicoy, Kavaratti, Agatti in Lakshadweep Islands. Out of these Water Aerodromes, Sardar Sarovar Dam (Statue of Unity) and Sabarmati Riverfront, Ahmedabad have been operationalized on 31.10.2020. The airline operating the seaplanes comply with the extant provisions of Civil Aviation Requirement(CAR)/guidelines for safety norms. However, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the seaplane operations which commenced on 31.10.2020 were suspended .

(c): Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency has informed that Rs. 287 crore have been sanctioned for 14 Water Aerodromes and an expenditure of Rs 18.73 crore has been incurred so far. State-wise details of Water aerodromes awarded under UDAN and status thereof are attached as Annexure

(d): A total of 115 RCS helicopter routes have been awarded under RCS-UDAN scheme out of which 36 routes have been operationalized. As per provisions in the UDAN scheme, helicopter operations are permissible only in priority areas viz. Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, North Eastern Region states, Andaman Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. Further, M/s Pawan Hans Limited (PHL) has been awarded 70 routes by AAI under RCS UDAN out of which the following are operationalized based on the availability of infrastructure and other necessary arrangements:

1. **Chandigarh-Shimla-Chandigarh**
2. **Shimla-Rampur-Shimla**
3. **Shimla-Mandi-Shimla**
4. **Mandi-Dharmshala-Mandi**
5. **Mandi-Kullu-Mandi**
6. **Dehradun-New Tehri-Dehradun**
7. **New Tehri-Srinagar-New Tehri**
8. **Srinagar-Gauchar-Srinagar**
9. **Dehradun-Srinagar-Dehradun**
10. **Dehradun-Gauchar-Dehradun**

11. **Haldwani-Haridwar-Haldwani**
12. **Pantnagar-Pithoragahr-Pantnagar**

(e): 28 sea plane routes connecting 14 water aerodromes and 115 RCS helicopter routes have been awarded.

(f): No such services are sanctioned from existing passenger cruise terminals in different ports.

(g): No airline has submitted any bid from Visakhapatnam cruise terminal for UDAN seaplane and helicopter operations so far. UDAN is an ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted periodically for covering more destinations/stations and routes and in case, any airline submit any bid for routes in future rounds of bidding, the same may be considered as per provisions of the Scheme document.

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STATUS OF WATER AERODROMES UNDER UDAN

State	Water Aerodromes	Owner	Implementing Agency	Cost Sanctioned Rs in Cr.	Expenditure Up To 30-06-2022 Rs in Cr.	PDC	Status
Andaman & Nicobar (UT)	Havelock (W-3)	UT	ALHW & SMP Kolkata	20.00	0.24	31.03.2023	Environment clearance from MoEF is awaited.
	Long Island (W-3)	UT	ALHW & SMP Kolkata	20.00	0.24	31.03.2023	Coastal Regulation Zone's clearance awaited.
	Neil Port (W-3)	UT	ALHW & SMP Kolkata	37.00	0.24	31.03.2023	Coastal Regulation Zone's clearance awaited.
	Port Blair (W-4)	UT	ALHW & SMP Kolkata	20.00	0.00	31.03.2023	Site yet to be identified
Lakshadweep Island (UT)	Agatti (W-4)	UT	UT	20.00	0.00	31.03.2024	Pre - feasibility study completed
	Minicoy (W-4)	UT	UT	20.00	2.00	31.03.2024	Pre – feasibility study yet to done
	Kavaratti (W-4)	UT	UT	20.00	2.00	31.03.2024	Pre – feasibility study completed
Telangana	Nagarjuna Sagar (W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	20.00	1.00	31.03.2024	Pre – feasibility study completed
Andhra Pradesh	Prakasham Barrage (WA-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	20.00	0.71	31.03.2024	Prefeasibility study completed
Assam	Guwahati River Front(W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	20.00	6.80	31.03.2024	Pre – feasibility study completed
	Umrangso Reservoir (W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	20.00		31.03.2024	Pre – feasibility study completed
Gujarat	Sabarmati River Front(W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	25.00	5.50	Completed	Operational
	Shatrunjay Dam (W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	0.00		-	Dropped
	Statue Of Unity (W-3)	State Govt.	State Govt.	25.00		Completed	Operational