

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1287
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2022)

PROGRESS OF THE UDAN SCHEME

1287. DR. AMAR PATNAIK

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

- (a) the number of destinations (airports/heliports/water aerodromes) completed under the Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) Scheme out of the target of 200 by year 2026;
- (b) the number of routes to provide air connectivity officially established under the UDAN scheme out of the target of 1000 for the year 2026;
- (c) the number of destinations and routes operationalized in the state of Odisha as of December 2022;
- (d) whether Government is considering any policy proposals included but not restricted to building sustainable air routes, with non-stop flights to curtail environmental impact of this scheme;
- (e) if so, details thereof; and
- (f) if not, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (f): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. As on 30.11.2022, after four rounds of bidding under UDAN, 453 routes have commenced, operationalizing 70 Airports including 2 Water Aerodrome & 9 Heliports. The scheme has been able to provide air connectivity to Tier-2 & Tier-3 cities at affordable airfares and has transformed the way people travel.

The UDAN Scheme is applicable for a period of 10 years from the date of notification of Scheme. The Government has set a target to operationalize 1000 UDAN routes during the currency of the scheme and to revive/develop 100 unserved & underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes by 2024. Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency, monitors the progress for the revival/development of awarded aerodromes under UDAN and the same is

reviewed by the Ministry in consultation with stakeholders time to time.

As on 30.11.2022, a total of 22 routes have been operationalized under UDAN for the State of Odisha. Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela, Jeypore and Rangeilunda are the Airports in Odisha that have been identified/awarded under UDAN. Jharsuguda and Jeypore Airports have been operationalized.

To realize the goals of decarbonisation of Aviation Sector, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) had constituted a Bio-Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) Programme Committee to take forward the Bio-ATF programme in the country to promote use of clean fuels. The terms of reference of the Committee included, inter-alia, raw materials production/demand, technology, BIS Standards, effects on engine performance etc. The Committee has submitted its report to MoP&NG.

Measures have been taken by the Airlines to reduce carbon footprint includes reduction of unwanted weight of aircraft, avoiding moisture/dirt accumulation on aircraft, proper speed and flap management etc. In addition, Airports Authority of India in consultation with Indian Air Force has optimized airspace utilization under Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) resulting in reduction of CO₂ emission.
