

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1288  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023)**

**STATUS OF UDAN SCHEME**

1288. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA

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

- (a) the status of AAI awarded 948 routes under UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme and the reason for some of the routes launched getting discontinued, the details thereof
- (b) the status of one of the key features that at least 50 per cent of the total seats on an aircraft have to be offered at cheaper rates and by when Government is going to implement the same and
- (c) whether Government has taken measures to operationalize all the valid flight routes issued under UDAN scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (c): Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency has awarded 1152 valid UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) routes so far. Out of these awarded routes, 469 routes connecting 74 airports including 9 heliports & 2 water aerodromes have been operationalized.

As per the provisions of UDAN Scheme, the Selected Airline Operator provides upto 50% of the aircraft seating capacity or maximum 40 seats, whichever is lower, as seats in a fixed wing aircraft under UDAN.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation regularly interacts with the airlines to promote air connectivity. Routes are sometimes delayed in operationalisation or discontinued, for reasons which inter-alia includes:

- i) Adverse impact of COVID-19 pandemic.
- ii) Non-readiness of civil airports/heliports, which could be related to availability of land, creation of regional infrastructure, obtainment of license from the Regulator etc.

- iii) Unsustainability of the operation on the awarded routes.
- iv) Non-readiness of Selected Airlines Operators (SAOs).
- v) Shut-down of Jet Airways and management issues related to M/s Turbo Megha Airways Private Limited.
- vi) Non-availability of VGF (Viability Gap Funding) after completion of 3 years tenure under the UDAN Scheme.

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