

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2884  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023)**

**UDAN YOJANA IN THE STATE OF BIHAR**

2884. SHRI RAKESH SINHA

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

- (a) the number of places in Bihar which have been connected with UDAN Yojana;
- (b) the details of their revenue model;
- (c) the number of new places in Bihar to be covered under UDAN Yojana; and
- (d) the reasons for not starting UDAN Yojana for Begusarai which has huge potential of air passengers?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (d): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity across the country from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN.

Promoting affordability of regional air connectivity is envisioned under UDAN by supporting Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) through concessions by Central Government, State Governments/UTs and airport operators to reduce the cost of airline operations on regional routes and providing financial (Viability Gap Funding or VGF) support to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such UDAN routes.

Airports namely, Arrah, Begusarai, Bettiah, Bhabua (Kaimoor), Bhagalpur, Bihar Shariff, Bihta, Birpur, Buxar, Chhapra, Dehri On Sone, Forbisganj, Hathwa, Jehanabad, Jogbani, Katihar, Kishanganj, Madhubani, Motihari, Munger, Muzzafarpur, Naria, Panchanpur, Raxaul, Saharsa & Valmiki Nagar, figure in the list of unserved/underserved Airports under the UDAN Scheme document.

Darbhanga airport has been identified and operationalised for UDAN flights.

Begusarai airstrip is owned by the State Government of Bihar and is available in the list of unserved Airports under the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme document. No airline has submitted bids for connecting Begusarai airport to any other destination under UDAN, so far. In case, any airline submits bid for routes connecting Begusarai airport under UDAN in future bidding rounds, the same will be considered as per provisions of the scheme document.

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