

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1138  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023)**

**AIR ROUTES ALLOTTED UNDER UDAN SCHEME (RCS)**

1138. DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE

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

- (a) the number of air routes allotted in the country under UDAN scheme-Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) and the number of routes still not operational, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps taken to resolve the same;
- (c) the number of airfields that have been included under the UDAN Scheme (RCS) in Uttar Pradesh and whether Meerut is also included in that list, if so, since when; and
- (d) the reasons behind no flights yet from Meerut and by when the obstacles in the operation of flights from Meerut to Lucknow and Prayagraj would be removed and the flights would be realistically taking off?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN, as on 20.07.2023, 1152 routes have been awarded, out of which 479 routes have commenced, connecting 74 airports, including 2 Water Aerodromes and 9 Heliports.

The main reasons behind non-operationalisation of airport/delay in commencement of the remaining routes, are as under :

- i. Delay in making land available by the State Government.
- ii. Lack of knowhow on the part of the new companies to comply with regulatory requirements.
- iii. Non-availability of suitable aircraft.
- iv. Leasing issues which include long lead time for delivery of small aircraft and challenges around procuring spares from outside the country.

(b): Some of the measures taken to address the issues of non-operationalisation/delay in commencement of the routes are as under:

- i. Periodic review with all stakeholders on the progress of the development/upgradation works of airports.
- ii. NSOP operations allowed in fixed wing seaplanes and helicopters.

(c) & (d): 18 Airports in the State of Uttar Pradesh, including Meerut, have been selected for operations under the RCS-UDAN. Meerut-Lucknow-Meerut route was awarded to M/s Big Charters Private limited for 19-seater type of aircraft under UDAN 4.2. Due to non-availability of the required land by the State Government, development work of the airport has not yet started.

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