

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1452
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th August 2024
UDAN SCHEME

1452. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

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

- (a) the total number of routes awarded by Government under the UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme till now;**
- (b) the State/UT-wise details thereof;**
- (c) the benefits realised as a result of the same;**
- (d) the challenges faced in the operationalisation and sustenance of the said flight routes; and**
- (e) the proposed routes under the said scheme?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Under Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), 870 valid routes have been allotted to various Selected Airline Operators, out of which 579 routes, connecting 85 unserved/ underserved airports, including 13 Heliports and 2 Water Aerodromes, in various States/UTs have been operationalised. The details, State/UT-wise, are attached at Annexure

(c): Since its inception in 2017, UDAN has expanded air travel, making it accessible to millions of Indians. UDAN has bridged the gap for connectivity by improving unserved air routes in underserved regions of the country and fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizens, driving economic growth and development in these areas. Following are various other benefits realised by the Scheme so far.

-142 lakhs Passengers have flown in over 2.74 lakhs RCS flights

-NER connectivity received a boost from the scheme with 74 valid Fixed wing and Helicopter routes connecting 12 Airports/Heliports having been operationalised in NER.

-The UDAN scheme has encouraged procurement of different type of aircraft in the country, ranging from 3 seater Tecnam, 9 seater Cessna 208B, 19 seater Twin Otter, 50 seater Embraer 145, 42/72/78 seater ATR and Q-400 to bigger aircraft like 189 seater Airbus 320/321 and B737 for UDAN flights.

-13 Airlines have commenced operations under UDAN including start-ups. UDAN scheme has been the cradle for birth of new Airlines like AirTaxi, IndiaOne, Star Air, FlyBig and Fly91.

-UDAN has triggered air connectivity and regional growth for many airports, which are now serving non-RCS Commercial flights too, like Belgaum, Kadapa, Hubballi, Salem, Darbhanga, Jharsuguda.

-UDAN scheme has sparked a massive increase in helicopter services in hilly areas. 60 Helicopter Routes have been operationalised under the UDAN scheme so far.

(d): Some of the challenges faced in operationalisation and sustenance of the routes under the Scheme are

1. Delay in airport development due to land unavailability,

2. Technical and operational constraints at certain airports,

3. Delay in obtaining Scheduled Commuter Operators Permit by new entrant Airlines,

4. Other issues such as non-availability of suitable aircraft, aircraft leasing issues, maintenance issues of small aircraft, low passenger load factor on certain routes etc.

(e) 291 valid awarded routes are proposed to be commenced under the scheme. UDAN is an ongoing scheme wherein bidding rounds are conducted from time to time for covering more destinations and routes under the scheme.

Annexure

State/UT-wise Valid RCS Routes

S. N.	State	Valid routes available	Commenced	Yet to commence
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	12	0	12
2	Andhra Pradesh	19	18	1
3	Arunachal Pradesh	15	5	10
4	Assam	57	30	27
5	Bihar	8	6	2
6	Chandigarh	6	3	3
7	Chhattisgarh	13	9	4
8	Daman and Diu (UT)	11	3	8
9	Delhi (UT)	22	19	3
10	Goa	11	6	5
11	Gujarat	56	39	17
12	Haryana	4	3	1
13	Himachal Pradesh	45	22	23
14	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	2
15	Jharkhand	12	5	7
16	Karnataka	71	64	7
17	Kerala	15	12	3
18	Ladakh (UT)	0	0	0
19	Lakshdweep	19	1	18
20	Madhya Pradesh	24	18	6
21	Maharashtra	73	58	15
22	Manipur	23	12	11
23	Meghalaya	11	8	3
24	Mizoram	3	2	1
25	Nagaland	17	4	13
26	Odisha	20	18	2
27	Puducherry (UT)	1	1	0
28	Punjab	20	16	4
29	Rajasthan	37	30	7
30	Sikkim	6	3	3
31	Tamil Nadu	24	13	11
32	Telangana	29	27	2
33	Tripura	8	3	5
34	Uttar Pradesh	86	55	31
35	Uttarakhand	62	46	16
36	West Bengal	26	18	8
	Total	870	579	291