

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1464  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024)**

**DEVELOPMENT OF UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED AIRPORTS**

1464. SHRI SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI

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

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to operationalise further the UDAN routes and to revive or develop unserved and underserved airports in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the number of domestic routes has risen in the last five years; and
- (c) if so, the details in this regard as compared to 2019?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c) : Government has launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN) to enhance remote and regional connectivity from unserved and underserved airstrips in the country. UDAN is an ongoing market driven scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/stations and routes. Interested airlines, based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation/development for commencement of UDAN operations, is developed under the 'Revival of unserved and underserved airports' scheme. After 12 cycles of bidding under five rounds of UDAN, 85 airports, including 13 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, have been operationalised with 579 Routes under the Scheme. More than 142 lakh passengers have so far benefited from the UDAN flights.

The number of cities with air connectivity in Summer Schedule of 2019 was 99 which has grown to 125 in the Summer Schedule of 2024.

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