

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2563**  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025)

**UDAN SCHEME**

2563. DR. KALPANA SAINI

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

- (a) the amount sanctioned by Government for the development of new airstrips under the UDAN scheme;
- (b) the States which have benefitted the most under the UDAN scheme; and
- (c) the special steps being taken by Government to provide more benefits to small and middle-income group passengers from the UDAN scheme and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), Rs. 4500 crore has been allocated under Phase I which is valid till March 2025. Further, an amount of Rs. 1000 crore has been allocated under Phase-II of the Scheme.

(b): Since the commencement of the UDAN scheme, 625 RCS route connecting 88 unserved and underserved airports (including 13 heliports and 02 water aerodromes) have been operationalised in 32 States/UTs.

(c): To ensure the affordability of regional air travel, the UDAN scheme provides financial incentives to airline operators on regional routes that include: Concessions by the Central Government, State Governments/ Union Territories and airport operators to reduce airline operation costs and also the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to bridge the gap between operational costs and expected revenues on such routes. The airfare on the RCS seats on which VGF is provided to the Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) is for a 3-year tenure and is capped at a subsidized rate. The above measures aim to strengthen affordability, accessibility and overall passenger convenience in the aviation sector.

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