

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2579
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24th March 2025)

OPERATIONAL DISRUPTION IN UDAN ROUTES

2579. SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the disruptions caused by COVID-19 Pandemic, Global engine issues and airline shutdowns that have led to the discontinuation of 114 UDAN routes;
- (b) the number of UDAN routes discontinued in the North East Region till date; and
- (c) the measures Government is taking up to address this issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c) Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), 114 RCS routes have been discontinued due to various reasons such as COVID-19 pandemic, grounding of many aircraft due to supply chain issues, shutting down of airlines and low passenger demand on some routes.

(b) Out of 114 discontinued routes, 16 routes are in the North East Region. Out of these 16 routes, 03 routes are currently operational under the UDAN scheme after being awarded to other Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) in subsequent bidding rounds and 07 routes are also being commercially operated by other airlines outside the UDAN scheme.

(c) The Government regularly monitors the routes that have ceased operations under UDAN and conducts special bidding rounds to operationalize such routes. Out of the 114 such routes that were discontinued, 26 routes are currently operational under the scheme after being awarded to other Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) in subsequent bidding rounds. Additionally, 20 routes are also being commercially operated by other airlines outside the UDAN scheme, without Viability Gap Funding (VGF) or any other concessions. 42 routes are not fulfilling the criteria of being an RCS route for rebidding as both the airports connecting the route are served airports.
