

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 157
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th August 2025)**

**OPERATIONALISATION AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
FOR SEAPLANE SERVICES**

*157. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE

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

- (a) the number of seaplane routes identified under UDAN and the targets set for operational routes by 2026;
- (b) the current status of financial and technical support extended to State agencies for developing water aerodromes, State/UT-Wise details;
- (c) whether the Central Government has undertaken inter-ministerial and state-level coordination to streamline regulatory approvals and mitigate environmental, safety and logistical hurdles; and
- (d) whether Government is considering a Public-Private Partnership (PPP)-based model or a dedicated Viability Gap Funding (VGF) mechanism to make seaplane services commercially sustainable, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 157 FOR ANSWER ON 04.08.025 REGARDING "OPERATIONALISATION AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION FOR SEAPLANE SERVICES" BY SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE.

(a): A total of 30 seaplane routes have been awarded for sea plane operations under the Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN).

(b) & (c): A total of Rs. 122.52 Crores have been allocated for development of water aerodromes under the RCS UDAN scheme.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has been consistently providing technical support to the State Government through stakeholder consultations and workshops involving the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), airlines, and aircraft manufacturers. These efforts include coordination for streamlining regulatory approvals, addressing safety and operational concerns, transferring knowledge on water aerodrome development procedures, and facilitating the mitigation of environmental and logistical challenges.

The Ministry is also actively coordinating between central agencies and the State Government to ensure alignment on technical, regulatory, and financial aspects of water aerodrome development.

(d): RCS-UDAN Scheme provides financial incentives to airline operators on identified 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.
