

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2424
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11th August 2025)**

**ENHANCING REGIONAL AIR CONNECTIVITY THROUGH UDAN
SCHEME**

2424. SHRI BABURAM NISHAD
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK
SHRI BRIJ LAL
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE
SMT MAMATA MOHANTA
SMT MAYA NAROLIYA
DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI
SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA
SHRI NARHARI AMIN
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE
SMT RAMILABEN BECHARBHAI BARA

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

- (a) the progress made so far under the UDAN scheme, particularly in connecting remote and regional areas;
- (b) the number of routes awarded so far under the UDAN scheme, and the number of routes which have become operational;
- (c) the special measures taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted flight operations on these UDAN routes;
- (d) whether Government is planning to introduce more routes under this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Since the commencement of Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN) 915 valid RCS routes have been awarded out of which 637 RCS routes have been operationalised, connecting 92 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes across the

country.

(c) to (e): In order to ensure uninterrupted flight operations on these routes, the government provides viability gap funding (VGF) to airlines, supports the upgrading of regional airports, and encourages operational flexibility. Routes that were discontinued in the past rounds are also re-bid, awarded and operationalised in subsequent rounds. Further, steps such as increased adoption of technologies like Special Visual Flight Rules and Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) standards at feasible airports for all-weather operations have also been taken.

The Government has recently announced the modified UDAN Scheme to increase regional connectivity to 120 new destinations across the country and to cater to 4 crore passengers in the next 10 years. The scheme will also support helipads and smaller airports in hilly, aspirational and North East region districts.
