

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2736
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th August 2025)**

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR VGF

2736. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

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

- (a) the total number of routes sanctioned and currently operational under the UDAN scheme across the country as of 31st July, 2025;
- (b) the total funds allocated versus utilized for Viability Gap Funding (VGF) during the last three financial years;
- (c) the number of unserved/underserved airports made operational under the scheme;
- (d) the primary reasons for the discontinuation of flight operations on certain sanctioned routes; and
- (e) Government's plan for the next phase of the UDAN scheme to enhance regional connectivity further?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- (a): Since the commencement of Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN) 637 RCS routes have been operationalized under the scheme.
 - (b): The total amount of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) disbursed from 2022-23 to 2024-25 is Rs. 2233.32 Crores.
 - (c): A total of 92 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes have been made operational across the country under the UDAN scheme.
 - (d) & (e): The primary reasons for the discontinuation of some route include grounding of aircraft due to supply chain issues, shutdown of airlines and low passenger demand on some routes.
- The Government has recently announced the launch of the modified UDAN Scheme to increase regional connectivity to 120 new destinations across the country, including Uttar Pradesh 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.
