

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1604
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15th December 2025)**

VGF FOR LOW-DEMAND ROUTES IN ODISHA'S HILLY AND TRIBAL DISTRICTS

1604. SMT SULATA DEO

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

(a) whether Government will consider providing Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for lowdemand routes in the State of Odisha's hilly and tribal districts under UDAN 5.2; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) is a regional connectivity scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation that provides Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to enhance air connectivity on low-demand and commercially unviable routes.

It is a demand-driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations and routes. Based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, interested airlines submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. Any future valid bids received from airline operators for unserved airstrips including those in hilly and tribal districts of Odisha, will be considered for VGF support as per the provisions of the Scheme.
