

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1622
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15th December 2025)**

**PERFORMANCE AND EXPANSION OF REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY
SCHEME**

1622. SHRI NARESH BANSAL

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

- (a) the manner in which the airports of the State of Uttarakhand and other States are being integrated under the Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) scheme to promote the connectivity to Tier-2 cities without creating additional pressure on metropolitan centers;
- (b) the new measures being adopted to enforce the guaranteed performance by the operators who delay the commencement of services; and
- (c) the key factors driving Government's efforts to increase the number of water aerodromes and heliports to be covered under the UDAN scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): The Government launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN scheme to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by reviving unserved and underserved airports in Tier-2 & Tier-3 cities, for making air travel affordable to the masses. As on 30.11.2025, 651 RCS routes have been operationalised, connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, across the country including Uttarakhand

(b): The UDAN Scheme is monitored regularly to review progress and implement course corrections wherever required. Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) that fail to commence operations within the stipulated timelines are issued show-cause notices and in cases of wilful default, routes are cancelled along with forfeiture of the Performance Guarantee/Proposal Security.

(c): India's extensive coastline, rivers, and inland water bodies provide significant potential for developing seaplane connectivity, while the remote and challenging terrain of the Himalayan and North-eastern States amplifies the need for helicopter connectivity. Recognising this potential, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)

has brought helicopter and seaplane services under the UDAN scheme.
