

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 801
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th December 2025)**

**PERFORMANCE AND EXPANSION OF REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY
SCHEME (UDAN)**

801. SHRI BABURAM NISHAD
 SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA
 SHRI NARHARI AMIN
 DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE
 DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI

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

- (a) manner in which Government is ensuring that newly licensed airports like Navi Mumbai International Airport and Jewar Airport are integrated into the Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) network to boost Tier-2 connectivity without overloading metro hubs;
- (b) Government's assessment of operational success rates under the latest UDAN phases and new measures that are being used to enforce performance guarantees for operators who delay the commencement of operations; and
- (c) the major factors that are driving Government's efforts to increase the number of water aerodromes and heliports to be covered under UDAN?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) : The Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) is a market driven scheme in which the unserved and underserved airstrips/airports are listed for bidding by airlines to provide connectivity. Navi Mumbai International Airport and Noida International (Jewar) Airport are Greenfield airports, which have not been proposed for inclusion in the list of unserved/underserved airports under the RCS-UDAN Scheme by the respective State Governments.

(b) : Since the commencement of UDAN Scheme, 651 routes have been operationalised, connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes across the nation. So far, over 1.57 crore

domestic passengers have travelled on more than 3.27 lakh RCS flights. The scheme is monitored on a regular basis to review the progress and to make the course corrections. Selected Airline Operators failing to commence operations within the stipulated timeline are issued show-cause notices, and in cases of wilful default, routes are cancelled 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 the helicopter and seaplane services under the UDAN scheme.
