

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2408
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th August 2026
CONNECTIVITY UNDER UDAN SCHEME

2408. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN

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

- (a) the list of unserved and underserved airstrips and airports in the country and the details of their connectivity under the UDAN scheme;
- (b) list of unserved airstrips and airports which do not come under the UDAN scheme and the plans of Government to connect the same;
- (c) the subsidy expected to be given to airlines operating under the UDAN scheme and the detailed financial blueprint thereof; and
- (d) the impact of capping fares under the scheme and the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b) : The list of unserved and underserved airstrips is available in the UDAN Scheme document at the following website https://www.aai.aero/sites/default/files/rcs_udan/Approved%20Scheme%20UDAN%205.5.pdf. Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), a total of 679 RCS routes connecting 95 airports, including 17 heliports and 2 water aerodromes have operationalised across the country.

The next phase of the UDAN Scheme was launched on 04.07.2026 to further strengthen regional air connectivity by expanding access to underserved and unserved airports across the country.

(c): Under the UDAN scheme, Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) are provided Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to bridge the gap between the cost of operations and expected revenue, thereby enabling affordable and sustainable regional air connectivity. Under the next phase of the UDAN Scheme, a budgetary support of Rs.10,043 crore as VGF over 10 years to airline operators is envisaged.

(d): Under the Scheme, around 50% of the seats on each RCS flight, are designated as RCS seats and are offered at capped airfares, supported through VGF, thereby ensuring affordable air connectivity to passengers in unserved and underserved regions of the country.
