

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 6324
(To be answered on the 5th April 2018)**

Relaxation in Norms under UDAN Scheme

6324. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has relaxed norms for its flagship regional flying scheme called UDAN to allow for more connectivity, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether these relaxations include dilution of exclusively clause that mandated that only one airline flies on one route in the initial years, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has also diluted norms that restricted two airports in close proximity to participate in the bidding, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir would be the focus areas in the second round of bidding and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

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- (a) to (d): Key Revisions made under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) - 2 are as below:
- i) To provide enhanced connectivity and ease the formation of networks under the Scheme, routes with stage length less than 150 Kms for operations through fixed wing aircraft as RCS Routes are accepted. Such routes permitted under the Scheme and Viability Gap Funding (VGF) calculated accordingly for Category 1A, 1, 2 & 3 of Fixed wing aircrafts.
- ii) Selected Airline Operator may issue No-Objection Certificate (NOC) to other airline operator(s) willing to operate on the respective RCS Route.
- iii) To provide more flexibility to Selected Airline Operators (SAO), maximum number of flights with VGF has been increased to 14 for Priority Areas and 7 departures for RCS Routes other than Priority RCS Routes. Further, the SAOs can anytime increase the number of flights on RCS Routes to any number but without provision of notified concessions for such additional capacity.

- iv) To provide operational flexibility to Selected Airline Operators, no minimum performance Specifications applicable on Non-RCS Routes as part of Network Proposals under the Scheme.
- v) To encourage helicopter operations under the Scheme, VGF Caps for Helicopters increased and upto 10% of the estimated annual inflows in the Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) earmarked for operations through helicopters. Further, all seats up to 13 passenger seats for Helicopters shall be considered as RCS Seats and accordingly, VGF shall be provided.
- vi) Focusing Priority Areas to expand the Remote Area connectivity
- vii) Priority Area(s) shall mean the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand, North Eastern Region, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands.
- viii) Priority RCS Route shall mean an RCS Route in which at least one of the origin and destination airport is an RCS Airport located in Priority Area(s). RCS Airport satisfies definition of Underserved Airport or Unserved Airport under the Scheme. Underserved Airport shall mean any airport which is no more than fourteen (14) scheduled commercial flight departures per week as per the latest flight schedule published by the DGCA on its website.
- ix) Maximum Number of Flights for Priority RCS Routes: Number of RCS Flights/week with VGF, shall be a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of fourteen (14) departures per week from the same RCS Airport. RCS Flights are operated on at least three (3) days of the week.
- x) Operations through Category-1A aircraft (with passenger seats less than 9) will be permitted only for Priority RCS Routes.
- xi) Enhanced VGF Caps for operations through Category-1 A and Category-1 Fixed-wing aircraft for Priority RCS Routes. Further, the Airfare caps and VGF Caps have been specified for stage lengths less than 151 Km and Priority RCS Routes / Category 1A aircraft.

A list of RCS networks (Fixed Wing & Helicopter) awarded in 2nd round of bidding which are involving RCS routes of North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir is attached as Annexure-1.

**List of RCS routes/ networks awarded to Selected Airline Operator(SAO)
in 2nd round of bidding under RCS-UDAN Version 2.0**

S.No.	RCS Routes/ Networks	RCS Route	Operator
Fixed-Wing			
1.	Kolkata- Pakyong- Guwahati- - Pakyong-Kolkata	Guwahati To Pakyong	Spicejet
		Pakyong To Guwahati	
		Pakyong To Kolkata	
2.	Kolkata- Jorhat-Passighat-Jorhat- Kolkata	Kolkata To Pakyong	Zoom Air
		Jorhat To Kolkata	
		Jorhat To Passighat	
		Passighat To Jorhat	
3.	Kolkata-Jorhat-Tezu-Jorhat- Kolkata	Kolkata To Jorhat	Zoom Air
		Jorhat To Kolkata	
		Jorhat To Tezu	
		Tezu To Jorhat	
4.	Kolkata-Lilabari-Kolkata	Kolkata To Jorhat	Spicejet
		Lilabari To Kolkata	
5.	Kolkata-Tezpur	Kolkata To Lilabari	Zoom Air
6.	Lucknow-Hindan-Kolkata-Jorhat- Kolkata-Hindan-Lucknow	Kolkata To Tezpur	Indigo
		Jorhat To Kolkata	
7.	Bhatinda-Jammu- Bhatinda	Kolkata To Jorhat	Alliance Air
		Bhatinda To Jammu	
8.	Srinagar- Kargil- Srinagar- Kishtwar – Jammu- Kishtwar- Srinagar	Jammu To Bhatinda	Maritime Energy
		Kargil To Srinagar	
9.	Delhi-Pakyong-Kolkata-Bokaro- Kolkata-Pakyong-Delhi	Srinagar To Kargil	Spicejet
		Bokaro To Kolkata	
		Kolkata To Bokaro	
		Kolkata To Pakyong	
		Pakyong To Delhi	
		Pakyong To Kolkata	
10.	Tezpur-Kolkata	Delhi To Pakyong	Zoom Air
		Tezpur To Kolkata	
11.	Shillong-Tezpur-Lilabari-Kolkata Lilabari-Tezpur-Shillong	Kolkata To Lilabari	AAA Aviation
		Lilabari To Kolkata	
		Lilabari To Tezpur	
		Tezpur To Lilabari	
		Tezpur To Shillong	
		Shillong To Tezpur	
Helicopter			
12.	Imphal-Moreh(Heliport)-Imphal	Moreh(Heliport) To Imphal	Pawan Hans
		Imphal To Moreh(Heliport)	
13.	Imphal -Tamenglong(Heliport)- Jiribam(Heliport) -	Jiribam(Heliport) To Tamenglong(Heliport)	Pawan Hans

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S.No.	RCS Routes/ Networks	RCS Route	Operator
	Tamenglong(Heliport) -Imphal	Tamenglong(Heliport) To Imphal	
		Tamenglong(Heliport) To Jiribam(Heliport)	
		Imphal To Tamenglong(Heliport)	
14.	Imphal - Thanlon(Heliport)- Parbung(Heliport)- Thanlon(Heliport)- Imphal	Parbung(Heliport) To Thanlon(Heliport)	
		Thanlon(Heliport) To Imphal	
		Thanlon(Heliport) To Parbung(Heliport)	
		Imphal To Thanlon(Heliport)	Pawan Hans
15.	Guwahati -Tezpur- Jorhat- Dibrugarh -Jorhat -Tezpur- Guwahati	Dibrugarh To Jorhat	
		Jorhat To Dibrugarh	
		Jorhat To Tezpur	
		Tezpur To Jorhat	Pawan Hans
16.	Guwahati -Nagaon(Heliport)- Tezpur - Itanagar(Heliport)-Tezpur Nagaon(Heliport)-Guwahati	Itanagar(Heliport) To Tezpur	
		Nagaon(Heliport) To Guwahati	
		Nagaon(Heliport) To Tezpur	
		Tezpur To Itanagar(Heliport)	
		Tezpur To Nagaon(Heliport)	
		Guwahati To Nagaon(Heliport)	Skyone Airways
17.	Dibrugarh -Lilabari - Itanagar(Heliport)- Lilabari Dibrugarh	Lilabari To Dibrugarh	
		Lilabari To Itanagar(Heliport)	
		Dibrugarh To Lilabari	
		Itanagar(Heliport) To Lilabari	Skyone Airways
18.	Dibrugarh Daparizo Yinghiong Dibrugarh	Daparizo To Yinghiong	
		Yinghiong To Dibrugarh	
		Dibrugarh To Daparizo	Skyone Airways
19.	Dibrugarh - Passighat- Tuting - Dibrugarh	Passighat To Tuting	
		Tuting To Dibrugarh	Skyone Airways
20.	Dibrugarh -Tezu -- Walong- Dibrugarh	Tezu To Walong	
		Walong To Dibrugarh	
		Dibrugarh To Tezu	Skyone Airways
21.	Dibrugarh -Itanagar(Heliport) -Ziro Dibrugarh	Ziro To Dibrugarh	Heligo