

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2643  
(To be answered on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022)**

**AIR TAXI SERVICE**

**2643. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH PATEL**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce air taxi service in various cities across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special scheme with focus on small cities is under consideration of the Ministry and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps being taken by the Government for promotion of air taxi service among public?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

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**(a) to (d): There is no such proposal for introduction of Air Taxis at present.**

**With repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they wish to operate across the country. Thus, airlines decide to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and their commercial viability, in compliance with the relevant guidelines in this matter.**

**Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. Under the UDAN scheme connectivity is enhanced by reviving unserved and underserved airports and by giving financial (Viability Gap Funding or VGF) support to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such UDAN routes. In addition to VGF, concessions to the Selected Airlines Operators (SAOs) are offered by Central Government, State Government and airport operator for operation of UDAN flights.**

**UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under**

**UDAN. As on 30.11.2022, 70 unserved /underserved airports including 9 Heliports & 2 water aerodromes have been operationalized under UDAN. UDAN has transformed the way people travel in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. UDAN is an ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted periodically for covering more destinations/stations and routes under the scheme.**

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