

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 111  
(To be answered on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023)**

**CHEAP AIR JOURNEYS**

**111. SHRI B.B. PATIL**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any scheme to facilitate low cost/affordable air journeys to the general public and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the operation of low cost/affordable domestic flights;
- (c) the names of the States/UTs where the Government proposes to implement this system/scheme; and
- (d) the details of the rates likely to be made applicable, State/UT-wise?

**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): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. As on 20.01.2023, after four rounds of bidding under UDAN, 459 routes have commenced, operationalizing 72 Airports including 2 Water Aerodrome & 9 Heliports. More than 2.16 lakh UDAN flights have been operated and over 1.13 crore passengers have availed the benefits in UDAN flights so far. The scheme has been able to provide air connectivity to Tier-2 & Tier-3 cities across the country at affordable airfares and has transformed the way people travel.

Under the UDAN Scheme, the Government has targeted an indicative airfare at Rs. 2500 for a distance of 500 km to 600 km per RCS seat under Regional Connectivity routes (equivalent to one-hour flight). Selected Airline Operator is required to provide upto 50% of the aircraft seating capacity or maximum 40 seats, whichever is lower, as Seats in a fixed wing aircraft under UDAN. This airfare is subject to indexation as per the formula specified in the UDAN

# **Scheme document.**

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