

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**  
**Lok Sabha**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3201**  
**( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21st December 2023 )**  
**RCS-UDAN**

**3201. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**be pleased to state:-**

- a) the salient feature of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) 'Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN)';**
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the said scheme in Rajasthan so far;**
- (c) the details of the number of States across the country being covered under the said scheme at present;**
- (d) the details of the targets set and the achievements made so far under the said scheme; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to start some more flights in the country under the said scheme and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

**(a) Ministry of Civil Aviation launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and make air travel affordable for the masses. The UDAN scheme envisages providing connectivity to unserved and underserved airports of the country through revival of the existing airstrips and airports. The scheme would be in operation for a period of ten years. The salient features of the UDAN scheme are as under:**

**i) The Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN is designed to enable air operations on underserved/unserved routes connecting regional**

**areas, promote balanced regional growth and make flying affordable for masses.**

**ii) Financial incentives in terms of concessions from Central, State Governments and airport operators are extended to Selected Airline Operators to encourage operations from unserved/underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes and to keep the air fare affordable.**

**iii) Financial Support to the Selected Airline Operators is in the form of Viability Gap Funding (VGF). State Governments provide 20% share towards VGF for RCS flights pertaining to their States. The share of VGF for North-Eastern States and the Union Territories is 10%.**

**iv) Excise Duty at the rate of 2% is levied on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) drawn by Selected Airline Operators at RCS Airports for RCS Flights for a period of three (3) years from the date of commencement.**

**v) Airlines are required to commit certain number of the seats as RCS seats, depending on the type and size of aircraft on RCS flights.**

**vi) Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF) is created by a levy on each departure of flights on aircraft having MTOW (Maximum Take-Off Weight) above 40 tonnes except for the departure of flights on routes in North East Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands.**

**vii) RCS-UDAN is a market driven scheme. Based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, interested airlines submit proposals at the time of bidding under RCS-UDAN.**

**(b) The details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised for revival of aerodromes identified under the UDAN scheme in Rajasthan is in Annexure.**

**(c): 32 States/UTs are being covered under the scheme.**

**(d): The Government has set a target to operationalised 1000 UDAN routes during the currency of the scheme.**

**Out of 799 valid routes awarded, 517 routes commenced under the UDAN scheme. More than 131 lakhs passengers benefited from the UDAN flights so far.**

**76 unserved/underserved airports have been operationalized including 2 Water Aerodromes & 9 Heliports commenced under the UDAN scheme.**

**(e): Routes under UDAN Round 5.0 have recently been awarded. Award of Routes under UDAN Round 5.1 for helicopters and UDAN Round 5.2 for small aircraft, is presently underway.**

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**Scheme for Revival of Underserved/Unserved Airports in Rajasthan**

**Annexure**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Airport</b>	<b>Sanctioned -Rs in Cr.</b>	<b>Total Expenditure till 14.11.2023</b>
1.	Bikaner	12.18	11.08
2.	Jaisalmer	8.69	6.03
3.	Kota	0.55	0.88
4.	Kishangarh	25.29	20.04
5.	Sriganganagar	45.00	-
6.	Uterlai	-	0.01
	<b>Total</b>	<b>91.72</b>	<b>38.04</b>