

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3852  
(To be answered on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021)**

**EXTENSION OF UDAN SCHEME**

**3852. SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) the number of airports connected with Udan scheme so far;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to extend this scheme to other small cities also in future; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

(a) to (c): 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 making air travel affordable to the masses. RCS - UDAN is a market driven scheme. The interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes submit their proposals at the time of bidding under RCS - UDAN from time to time. 56 unserved / underserved airports including 5 heliports and 2 water aerodromes have been operationalized under RCS- UDAN so far. The primary objective of RCS is to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by connecting unserved/underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes. The scheme is applicable for 10 years. Airport Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency conducts e-bidding from time to time and award bids to Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) for connecting unserved/underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes across the country as per the provisions of the scheme document.

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