

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1829  
(To be answered on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021)**

**AIR CONNECTIVITY IN JHARKHAND**

**1829. SHRI SANJAY SETH**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give impetus to the air connectivity expansion programme in small cities across the country including Jharkhand;  
(b) if so, the details of new efforts being made in this regard; and  
(c) whether the Government has any proposal for air connectivity especially between Ranchi to Varanasi, Patna, Bhagalpur and other capitals of the country and if so, the details thereof?

**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 (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. The primary objective of RCS is to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by connecting unserved/underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes. 359 UDAN routes have already operationalized connecting 59 UDAN airports including 2 water aerodromes & 5 heliports so far. Chaibasa, Chakulia, Dalbhandarh, Daltonganj, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, Giridhi, Jamshedpur, Sindri and Bokaro (all in Jharkhand) figure in the list of unserved/underserved airports as per the UDAN scheme document. Four airports, namely, Bokaro, Dumka, Jamshedpur and Hazaribagh in the state of Jharkhand have been identified for development and operation of UDAN flights. Air connectivity especially from Ranchi to Varanasi, and to Patna does not come under the purview of UDAN as these are served airports. Bhagalpur Airport is available in RCS document. None of the airline has submitted proposal to operate RCS flights from Bhagalpur airstrip till 4th round of bidding under UDAN.

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