

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4784
(To be answered on the 31st March 2022)**

ROUTES UNDER UDAN SCHEME

4784. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the total number of routes awarded under the UDAN scheme;
(b) whether it is true that, as stated in the Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, only 403 routes have been operationalised;
(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
(d) whether, as per the recommendations of the Committee, the Government proposes to extend the benefits under the scheme 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))

(a) to (d): Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency, has awarded 948 valid routes across length and breadth in the country under Regional Connectivity Scheme(RCS)-UDAN(Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik).

Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) under UDAN are obligated to commence RCS flight operations on a RCS route within a period of six months from the issuance of Letter of Award or within two months from the readiness of airport, whichever is later, unless any extension is granted by the Implementing Agency. Thus, SAOs start RCS flights depending upon their readiness and readiness of the awarded airport(s). 403 routes were operationalized under UDAN upto 14.12.2021 i.e. at the time of report Department related Parliament Standing Committee. Subsequently, 12 more UDAN routes have been operationalized, leading to a total of 415 routes as on 27.03.2022.

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. UDAN scheme is reviewed in consultation with

stakeholders including SAO periodically and necessary course corrections are carried out from time to time.

For sustainability of awarded routes and scheme in general, extension of 1 year benefit was granted under the scheme in respect of the routes which had completed their tenure by 31.12.2021.
