

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 550
(To be answered on the 6th February 2025)**

FLIGHTS UNDER REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY SCHEME-UDAN

550. SHRI TANUJ PUNIA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is true that operation of flights in many sectors under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN have been discontinued;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, sector-wise;
- (c) the number of inbound and outbound flights reduced from Prayagraj, Banaras, Ayodhya and Lucknow; and
- (d) the details of the action plan to resume operation of the said flights?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), 114 RCS routes have been discontinued. However, eligible routes that were discontinued in the past rounds due to various reasons such as airline failure, have also been re-bid, awarded and operationalised in the subsequent rounds.

The reasons for discontinuation of routes include the disruptions caused by COVID-19 pandemic grounding of many aircraft due to global aircraft engine issues certain operational challenges such as weather disruptions operational challenges, such as the availability of slots at certain airports or the availability of the requisite aircraft with the airline, shutting down of airlines and low passenger demand on some routes.

The number of inbound and outbound flights from Prayagraj, Banaras, Ayodhya and Lucknow have not been reduced. In fact, flight connectivity has increased due to Maha Kumbh Mahotsav wherein, 81 additional new flights have been introduced to Prayagraj in January, 2025.
