

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1

(To be answered on the 29th January 2026)

ROUTES UNDER UDAN SCHEME

1. SHRI RAJESH NARANBHAI CHUDASAMA
SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH
SHRI DILIP SAIKIA
SHRI TAPIR GAO
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA
SHRI YOGENDER CHANDOLIA
SMT ANITA NAGARSINGH CHOUHAN
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU
DR. SANJAY JAISWAL
SHRI DAMODAR AGRAWAL
SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION **नागर विमानन मंत्री** be pleased to state:-

- (a) the present status of the UDAN scheme including the total number of routes operationalised, airports connected and passengers benefited since its inception;
- (b) the details of the modified UDAN scheme announced in the Budget for 2025-26 and its target for connecting new destinations over the next decade; State-wise;
- (c) the specific measures being taken to enhance air connectivity to remote, hilly and North Eastern regions under the revamped scheme;
- (d) the details of the Viability Gap Funding disbursed till date and the mechanism in place for monitoring sustainability of the routes; and (e) whether the Government proposes to add new airstrips in Rajasthan under the said scheme and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): As on 20.01.2026, a total of 657 routes have been operationalised, connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes carrying over 1.6 crore domestic passengers on more than 3.27 lakh RCS flights under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN).

The Government has announced the launch of the modified UDAN Scheme to increase regional connectivity to 120 new destinations across the country, to cater to 4 crore passengers over the next 10 years. The scheme will also support helipads and smaller airports in hilly, aspirational, and North East region districts. The scheme is presently at the approval stage.

(d) & (e): An amount of Rs. 4494 crores has been disbursed towards Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to support the Selected Airline Operators. To ensure the sustainability of the routes, the UDAN scheme provides financial incentives to airline operators on regional routes that include: Concessions by the Central Government, State Governments/Union Territories and airport operators to reduce airline operation costs and also the VGF to bridge the gap between operational costs and expected revenues on such routes.

Under the UDAN scheme, the list of existing unserved/underserved airstrips/airports/Water aerodromes for inclusion in the UDAN scheme is finalized in consultation with the State Government concerned. If the State Government of Rajasthan informs of the existence of airstrips and requests for its inclusion under UDAN, the same may be included in the scheme document.
