

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4525**  
( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th March 2026 )  
**NEW AIRPORTS UNDER UDAN SCHEME**

4525. SHRI DHAVAL LAXMANBHAI PATEL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the list of 120 new destinations targeted under the revamped UDAN initiative for the next ten years;
- (b) the specific allocation for helipads and smaller airports in hilly and North Eastern regions in the budget for the Financial Year 2026-27;
- (c) the number of routes that successfully transitioned to commercial viability without Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken to address the operational challenges of aircraft shortages for regional carriers?

**ANSWER**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): 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 at approval stage.

(c): A total of 162 routes have become commercially operational without Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support.

(d): Aircraft acquisition and fleet deployment are commercial decisions of the airlines. However, DGCA has a robust mechanism in place to monitor the induction of aircraft by airlines.

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