

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

Rajya Sabha

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 970

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th February 2021

REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY ROUTES UNDER UDAN III

970. SHRI SYED ZAFAR ISLAM

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government will shortly award new regional connectivity routes under UDAN III, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (b) whether the new routes will meet a lot of unmet demands and futuristic requirements of the people, if so, the details thereof including Uttar Pradesh?**

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) and (b): Airports Authority of India(AAI), the Implementing Agency, has conducted four(4) rounds of bidding under Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN and awarded 766 valid UDAN routes till 1st phase of round 4.0. Out of these 766 valid UDAN routes, 311 UDAN routes have been operationalized. The prime objective of the UDAN scheme is to stimulate regional air connectivity at affordable airfare to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme.

AAI, the Implementing Agency, has awarded UDAN routes from 17 UDAN airports in Uttar Pradesh (UP). Out of these 17 airports, 5 UDAN airports namely Agra, Gorakhpur, Kanpur, Prayagraj and Hindon have been operationalized.

Under UDAN, the routes awarded connect to small cities, unserved/underserved airports in remote/hilly/difficult terrain across the country through fixed-wing, rotary-wing and seaplanes. UDAN scheme boosts inclusive national economic growth, employment opportunities and air transport infrastructure development across the nation.
