

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1306
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2022)**

UDAN SCHEME

1306. SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA

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

- (a) the status and details of UDAN scheme being run in the North-Eastern Region
- (b) the details of new routes/ destinations being planned to be incorporated under this scheme
- (c) the details of budget allocated, released, and utilised for UDAN since its inception
- (d) the details of subsidies provided under this scheme
- (e) the details of number of passengers who have availed the benefits under this scheme, year-wise and
- (f) whether there is any plan to extend this scheme to other parts of the country, and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation / development for commencement of RCS operations, is developed under "Revival/upgradation of unserved and underserved airports/heliports/water aerodromes" Scheme.

Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency has operationalised 56 routes connecting Rupsi, Tezu, Jorhat, Lilabari, Shillong, Pakyong & Dimapur. Two Advanced landing Grounds namely Pasighat and Ziro have also been operationalized in Arunachal Pradesh under the scheme "Providing Air Connectivity and Aviation Infrastructure in NER (North Eastern Region)".

UDAN is a market driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time for covering more destinations/stations and routes across the

country. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. The Implementing Agency awards the route to the Selected Airline Operator, for a period of 3 years after evaluation of the bid as per the provisions of the Scheme document, for operation of the UDAN flights.

(c) & (d): UDAN is a self-financing Scheme. Viability Gap Funding (VGF) of Rs. 2,218 crore has been disbursed to the Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) for operating UDAN flights in the country, so far.

(e): More than 2.15 lakh UDAN flights have operated and over 1.1 crore passengers have availed the benefits in UDAN flights in the country so far.

(f): The UDAN scheme is implemented across the country since its inception.
