

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1445
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9th December 2024)

GUIDELINES FOR SEAPLANE OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

1445. SHRI PRADIP KUMAR VARMA
SMT DARSHANA SINGH
SHRI MADAN RATHORE
SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR

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

- (a) the primary objectives of the newly introduced guidelines regarding seaplane operations in the country;
- (b) the manner in which the version 5.4 of the UDAN scheme is intended to enhance connectivity in the country, particularly with regard to routes that were cancelled earlier; and
- (c) the measures proposed to ensure safety of seaplane operations under the new guidelines and the manner in which they relate to the development of water aerodromes, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) The primary objective of the Guidelines for Seaplane Operations in India issued on 22.08.2024 is to provide seamless and safe seaplane operations while enabling the citizens in remote areas to benefit from air connectivity under the UDAN scheme. The Guidelines allow NSOP operators to commence seaplane operations from the water-aerodromes that have been developed in compliance with DGCA CAR Section 3 Series C Part IX 'Minimum Safety Requirements for Seaplane Operations'. The Guidelines also aim to delineate responsibilities of various stakeholders viz the State/UT Government and the airline operators for the same.

(b) UDAN 5.4 is a special bidding round for the routes that were earlier awarded but cancelled due to operational challenges or low passenger demand, in an attempt to enhance connectivity from aerodromes developed/revived under the Scheme.

(c) The Guidelines require the Airline Operators to provide safe and airworthy

seaplane for operations in compliance with DGCA regulations, ensure safety protocols, passenger facilitation and operational clearances. The Guidelines also require the State/UT Government to obtain necessary statutory clearances for water-aerodromes, appoint aerodrome manager, ensure safety and security of aerodrome as per prescribed norms of DGCA and BCAS respectively and provide passenger amenities.
