

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 556
(To be answered on the 6th February 2025)**

SCHEME FOR EXPANSION OF AIR SERVICES

556. SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is considering new schemes for the expansion of air services in small cities and remote areas; and
(b) if so, the number of such schemes that are currently being implemented?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports for the expansion of air services in small cities and remote areas in the country by making air travel affordable to the masses.

Five rounds of bidding under the RCS-UDAN scheme have been completed and 619 RCS routes connecting 88 unserved and underserved airports (including 13 heliports and 2 water aerodromes) have been operationalised across the country till date.

The government has announced launching of a modified UDAN Scheme for the next 10 years aimed at connecting 120 new destinations.
