

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1409
(To be answered on the 13th February 2025)**

EXPANSION OF AIR CONNECTIVITY

**1409. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA
 SMT KAMLESH JANGDE
 SHRI PRAVEEN PATEL**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the manner in which the latest initiative is aligned with the objectives of Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) scheme;**
(b) the likely impact of commencement of the flights under UDAN scheme on tourism and business sectors of that region; and
(c) whether the Government proposes to further expand the network of Alliance Air in the North-Eastern States including Assam and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) : The Government launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) in October 2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country for making air travel affordable to the masses. The scheme seeks to bring air connectivity to tier-2 and tier-3 cities by taking up existing airstrips identified through UDAN bidding rounds for development and upgradation under the 'Revival of unserved and underserved airports' scheme.

Since the launch of Scheme in 2016, 619 RCS routes (including 53 Tourism RCS routes) connecting 88 unserved and underserved airports (including 13 heliports & 02 water aerodromes) have been operationalized till date and over 149 lakh passengers have benefited from about 2.96 lakh RCS flights.

(b) : The UDAN Scheme envisaged in National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016 provides connectivity to un-served and underserved airports of the country through revival of existing air strips and airports. In pursuance of the

policy, the Government has been taking concrete steps to take flying to the masses by making it affordable, convenient and also provide safe, secure, affordable and sustainable air travel for passengers as well as air transportation of cargo with access to various parts of India and the world and establish an integrated eco-system which is leading to significant growth of the civil aviation sector which in turn is also promoting tourism, increasing employment and leading to balanced regional growth across the country.

(c) : Alliance Air Aviation Limited (AAAL) has been operating flights in the North East Region (NER) since its operations commenced from 15th April 1996. Currently, Alliance Air is operating in six States of North East Region namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland, with ATR-72 and Dornier DO-228 aircraft. Alliance Air is operating at Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Rupsi and Silchar Airports in Assam.

Also, under the UDAN Scheme, 34 RCS routes have been awarded to Alliance Air in the North Eastern Region including Assam out of which 30 Routes have been operationalised.
