

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 507
(To be answered on the 6th February 2025)**

GUIDELINES FOR SEAPLANE OPERATIONS

507. SHRI JASHUBHAI BHILUBHAI RATHVA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the primary objectives of the newly launched Guidelines for Seaplane Operations in the country;**
- (b) the manner in which the 5.4 version of the UDAN scheme aims to enhance connectivity in the country, particularly regarding routes that were previously cancelled;**
- (c) the measures proposed to ensure the safety and security of seaplane operations under the new guidelines; and**
- (d) the manner in which the said measures relate to the development of water aerodromes?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) The primary objective of the NSOP Guidelines for Seaplane Operations in India issued on 22.08.2024 is to address the delays in developing water aerodromes to operationalise Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) seaplane routes utilising NSOP framework which has previously proved to be successful for RCS helicopter operations. Further, these guidelines aim to provide seamless and safe seaplane operations while enabling the common public in remote areas to avail benefits from the UDAN scheme.

(b) UDAN 5.4 focuses on the rebidding of previously predetermined routes that were cancelled due to operational challenges or insufficient passenger demand.

(c) The measures to ensure safety and security of seaplane operations include compliance with BCAS security templates and anti-hijacking norms along with regular inspections by DGCA and compliance with DGCA regulations

prescribed for safe operations by the water-aerodrome as well as the seaplane operator.

(d) The guidelines outline the responsibilities of State Governments, Union Territories, and Water Aerodrome Operators in obtaining necessary permissions, ensuring safety standards, and managing operations. The revised regulations prescribe Minimum Safety Requirements to operationalise water-aerodrome.

By integrating these measures, the guidelines aim to expedite commence of seaplane operations so as to make air travel more accessible and efficient, particularly in regions where traditional airport infrastructure is a challenge to develop.
