



Krishi UDAN 2.0

 drishtiias.com/printpdf/krishi-udan-2-0

Why in News

Recently, the **Union Minister of Civil Aviation** has released **Krishi Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) 2.0** to facilitate movement of agricultural produce by air.

- It lays out the **vision of improving value realization** through better **integration and optimization of agri-harvesting and air transportation** and contributing to agri-value chain sustainability and resilience under different and dynamic conditions.
- Earlier, ahead of **UDAN Day (21st October)**, the Ministry of Civil Aviation **flagged off 6 routes**, expanding the aerial connectivity of North-East India, under the **UDAN Scheme**.

Key Points

- **About:**
 - **Krishi UDAN** was launched in **August 2020**, on **international and national routes** to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products so that it improves their value realisation.
 - Krishi UDAN 2.0 will focus on transporting **perishable food products** from the **hilly areas, northeastern states and tribal areas**.
 - It will be **implemented at 53 airports across the country** mainly focusing on northeast and tribal regions and is likely to benefit farmers, freight forwarders and airlines.

Opted airports not only **provide access to regional domestic markets** but also **connect them to international gateways of the country**.

- **Main Features:**
 - **Waiver:**

Facilitate and **incentivize movement of agri-produce** by air transportation by giving a full waiver of landing, parking, Terminal Navigation and Landing Charges and Route Navigation Facilities Charges for domestic airlines.
 - **Hub and Spoke Model:**

Strengthen Cargo related infrastructure at airports and off airports by facilitating the development of a **hub and spoke model** and a freight grid.
The hub and spoke model refers to a **distribution method** in which a centralized "hub" exists.
 - **Resource Pooling:**

Resources-Pooling through **establishing a convergence mechanism i.e. collaboration with other government** departments and regulatory bodies.
It will provide freight forwarders, airlines and other stakeholders with Incentives and concessions to enhance air transportation of Agri-produce.
 - **E-KUSHAL:**
 - An online platform named **E-KUSHAL (Krishi Udaan for Sustainable Holistic Agri-Logistics)** would also be developed to **facilitate information dissemination** to all stakeholders regarding the transportation of agricultural produce.
 - The ministry has also proposed **convergence of E-KUSHAL** with the **National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)**.
- **Expected Benefits:**
 - **New Avenues of Growth for Agriculture:**

This scheme will open up **new avenues of growth** for the agriculture sector and help attain the goal of **doubling farmers' income** by removing barriers in supply chain, logistics and transportation of farm produce.
 - **Decrease Food Wastes:**

It will help solve the **problem of wastage** of agricultural food wastes in the country.

Convergence of Agriculture and Aviation

The convergence between the two sectors (**A2A – Agriculture to Aviation**) is possible because of three primary reasons:

- Evolutionary possible use of **biofuel** for aircraft in future
- Use of **drones** in the agriculture sector
- Due to greater integration and value realisation of agricultural products through schemes like Krishi UDAN.

Source: PIB