



UDAN Day

Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has celebrated the **UDAN day** on the **4th anniversary of the [UDAN](#) (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) Scheme**.

- The Government of India has acknowledged the contribution of the scheme and has identified **21st October** as UDAN Day, the day on which the scheme document was first released.

Key Points

▪ About the Scheme:

- **Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik** (UDAN) was launched as a **regional connectivity scheme** (RCS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation in **2016**.
- **Aim:**
 - To develop the regional aviation market.
 - To provide affordable, economically viable and profitable air travel on regional routes to the common man even in small towns.
- It envisages **providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports** of the country through the **revival of existing airstrips and airports**.
 - Under-served airports are those which do not have more than one flight a day, while unserved airports are those where there are no operations.
- The scheme is implemented by the **[Airports Authority of India](#)** (AAI) and is **operational for a period of 10 years**.

▪ Achievements Highlighted:

- **Created a virtuous circle wherein the UDAN routes feed the national network** and the national routes further create new opportunities for the people across the country who then generate demand for more regional routes.
- Played a major role in **adding new airports and routes to the aviation landscape** of the country.

▪ Suggestions:

- Stakeholders should **work towards making the UDAN scheme sustainable** on its own and **improve its efficiency**.
- Airlines should **undertake marketing initiatives** so that more and more people can take advantage of the UDAN scheme.
- **More infrastructure is required** for the successful implementation of the scheme across the country.

[Source: PIB](#)

