

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 4  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025)**

**DEVELOPMENT OF DRONE CORRIDORS IN ODISHA**

4. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government proposes to build dedicated drone lanes in the State of Odisha for use in medical supply delivery, disaster response, and agricultural services;
- (b) if so, the specifics of these specified routes, including the districts and areas chosen for implementation;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiatives to expand regional air connectivity in State beyond Bhubaneswar, either through the UDAN scheme or otherwise;
- (d) the current status of aviation infrastructure development in Odisha's tribal and coastal regions; and
- (e) whether any feasibility studies been conducted to boost drone and small aircraft logistics in cyclone and flood-prone areas?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) and (b) Currently, there is no such proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has undertaken several initiatives under the Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) to enhance regional air connectivity in Odisha, beyond the capital city of Bhubaneswar. Four airports, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela and Jeypore have already been developed and made operational under the RCS-UDAN scheme. Three more airstrips, Rangeilunda, Amarda, and Rairangpur (Dandabose) have been identified for development to support future RCS operations. Development work at the Rangeilunda airstrip is currently being carried out by the State Government under the UDAN scheme and is expected to be completed by March 31, 2026. The development works at Amarda, Rairangpur are in planning

stage as the land acquisition is in process by the State Government.

The following airstrips in Odisha are currently available in the list of unserved airstrips in the UDAN document:

Angul, Barbil, Birasal, Gudari, Hirakund, Jayakpur, Lanjigarh, Nawapara, Padampur, Raisuan, Sukinda, Theruboli, Tushra, Malkangiri, Baripada & Konark.

(e) Ministry of Civil Aviation has not conducted any feasibility studies to boost drone and small aircraft logistics in cyclone and flood-prone areas.

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