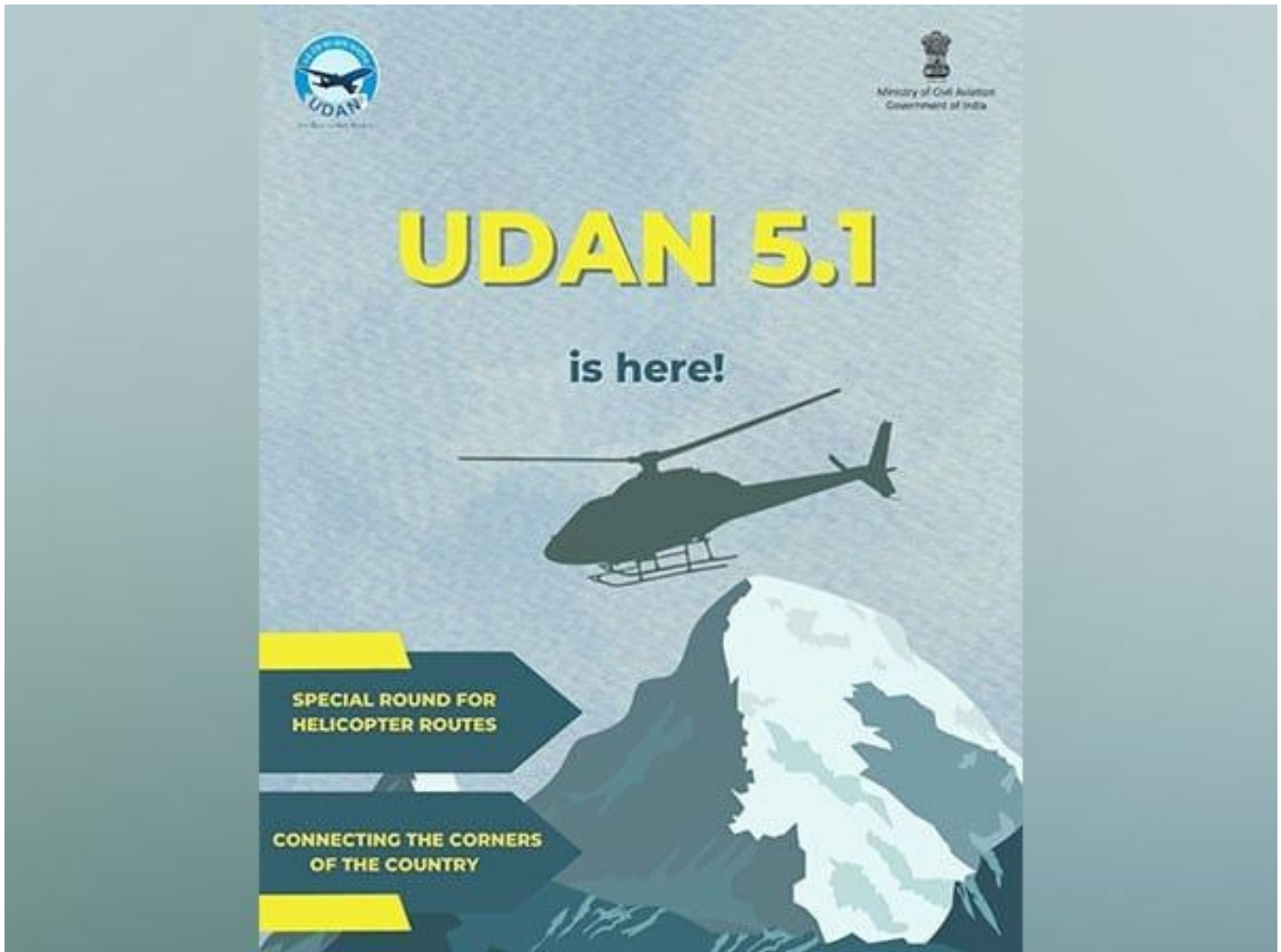


UDAN 5.1 Scheme

May 25, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About UDAN 5.1 Scheme:

- After 4 successful rounds of the **Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN)**, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched UDAN 5.1 to further **enhance the connectivity to remote areas** of the country and achieve last mile **connectivity through helicopters**.
- The **main features include:**
 - An **increase in the scope of operations for operators** wherein the scheme will now allow routes where one of the origin or destination locations is in a priority area. Earlier both points had to be in priority areas.
 - **Airfare caps** have been **reduced by as much as 25%** to make flying in helicopters more affordable for passengers.

- **Viability Gap Funding (VGF) caps** for the operators have been **increased** substantially for **both single and twin-engine helicopters** to enhance financial viability for operating the awarded routes.
- Previous rounds of the scheme have **already operationalised 46 helicopter routes**, benefiting **hilly and North-East states**. The current round aims to cover an even larger number of routes, expanding the reach of air connectivity.

About UDAN Scheme:

- UDAN- **Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik** is an innovative scheme to develop the regional aviation market.
- The scheme was initiated **in October 2016** with the **objective** of fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizen, with an enhanced aviation infrastructure and air connectivity in **tier II and tier III cities**.
- The scheme UDAN envisages **providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports** of the country through **revival of existing air-strips and airports**.
- **Nodal Ministry-** Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Q1) What is the potential of aviation in India?

India's aviation sector has been among the fastest growing in the world, with Airports Council International's long-term forecast indicating that by 2041 India is expected to grow by 339 percent over 2022, reaching 1.1 billion passengers flown.

Source: [MoCA launches UDAN 5.1 to boost connectivity in remote areas through helicopter](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/udan-51-scheme/>

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