



## 4th Heli-India Summit 2022

**For Prelims:** 4<sup>th</sup> Heli-India Summit 2022, Civil Aviation Sector of India, UDAAN Scheme, Heli-Sewa Portal, Heli Disha, Helicopter Emergency Medical Services.

**For Mains:** Growth & Development, Infrastructure, Indian Aviation Market.

### Why in News?

Recently, the Minister of Civil Aviation has inaugurated the **4<sup>th</sup> Heli-India Summit 2022** in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

- **Theme:** Helicopters for Last Mile Connectivity.

### What are the Highlights of the Summit?

- Announcing the achievements in the Civil Aviation sector, it was noted that the country had only 74 airports from 1947 to 2014, but it now has 141, with **67 added in the last seven years.**
- It is proposed to build a civil enclave in Jammu and the Srinagar's present terminal will be expanded three times.
- Announced to develop Fractional Ownership Model and **HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Services)** pilot called **Project**.
  - **Fractional Ownership Model:** It helps to grow the non-scheduled operations.
    - It will lower the barrier on the cost of acquisition of helicopters and airplanes through pooled capital by multiple owners.
  - **HEMS:** It is called Project Sanjeevani; **a helicopter will be deployed to provide emergency medical services** at AIIMS Rishikesh.
    - The helicopter will be based at the hospital at 20-minute notice and will have a service covering an area of 150 km radius.

### What is the Scenario of the Civil Aviation Sector of India?

- **About:**
  - Helicopters have multifarious roles, providing urban connectivity and the other roles of helicopter service have been the **emergency medical services and disaster management during floods, rescue operations etc.**
  - The civil aviation industry in India has emerged as **one of the fastest growing industries in the country during the last three years** and can be broadly classified into **scheduled air transport service which includes domestic and international airlines, non-scheduled** air transport service which consists of charter operators and air taxi operators, air cargo service, which includes air transportation of cargo and mail.
- **Significance:**
  - India is currently the **7<sup>th</sup> largest civil aviation market in the world** and is expected to become the third-largest civil aviation market within the next 10 years.
  - India is expected to overtake **China and the United States as the world's third-**

**largest air passenger market in the next ten years, by 2030, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA).**

- In FY22, airports in India pegged the domestic passenger traffic to be 166.8 million, a 58.5% YoY increase, and international passenger traffic to be 22.1 million, a 118% YoY increase, as compared to FY 2020-21.
- **Opportunity:**
  - **FDI:** 100% [Foreign Direct Investment \(FDI\)](#) allowed under Automatic route for Ground Handling Services and Maintenance Repair and Overhaul Services (MRO) and for both green and brownfield projects.
  - **Scope of Growth:** The Indian civil Aviation MRO market, at present, stands at around USD 900 million and is anticipated to grow to USD 4.33 billion by 2025 increasing at a CAGR of about 14-15%.
    - The nation's airplane fleet is projected to quadruple in size to approximately 2500 airplanes by 2038.
  - **Connecting New Airports:** The government aims to develop 100 airports by 2024 (under the UDAN Scheme) and create world-class civil aviation infrastructure to be at par with global standards.

## What are the Related Initiatives?

- **Heli-Sewa Portal:**
  - HeliSewa portal is fully online and being used by all operators for obtaining landing permissions to helipads, and **it also is creating a database of helipads in the country.**
- **Heli-Disha:**
  - HeliDisha, the guidance material on helicopter operations for State administration, has been **distributed to 780 districts.**
  - It contained all regulations and issues related to helicopter size, weight, operations, etc, and it would be distributed so that awareness about them is created in the district administrations across the country.
- **Helicopter Accelerator Cell:**
  - The Helicopter Accelerator Cell is fully active in resolving helicopter issues and the advisory group of industry representatives is helping identify problems areas.
- **[Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik:](#)**
  - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) was launched as **a regional connectivity scheme under the Ministry of Civil Aviation in 2016.**
  - It is an innovative scheme to develop the **regional Aviation market.**
- **[Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme:](#)**
  - 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.

## Way Forward

- Civil Aviation has now become **the need of the hour not only for India but for humankind across the world** as it always brings with it two important multipliers, the economic multiplier and the employment multiplier.
- The industry stakeholders should engage and collaborate with policy makers to implement efficient and rational decisions that would boost **India's civil aviation industry.**
- With the right policies and relentless focus on quality, cost and passenger interest, **India would be well placed to achieve its vision of becoming the third-largest aviation market by 2020.**

**UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)**

**Q.** Examine the development of Airports in India through joint ventures under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. What are the challenges faced by the authorities in this regard? **(2017)**

**Q.** International civil aviation laws provide all countries complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above their territory. What do you understand by 'airspace'? What are the implications of these laws on the space above this airspace? Discuss the challenges which this poses and suggest ways to contain the threat. **(2014)**

**Source: PIB**

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