



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.

- **Other Initiatives Related to Farmers:**

- [Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana \(PMKSY\)](#)
- **Green India Mission**
- [Soil Health Card \(SHC\)](#)
- [Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana \(PKVY\)](#)
- [Rainfed Area Development \(RAD\)](#)
- [Sub-mission on AgroForestry \(SMAF\)](#)
- **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER).**

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](#)