



Heli Shikhar Summit 2023 and Udaan 5.2 inaugurated at Khajuraho

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023 Union Civil Aviation and Steel Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia inaugurated the Heli Summit 2023 at **Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh**. Also launched **RCS Udaan 5.2 and b**

Key Points::

- This 5th Helicopter and Small Aircraft Summit (Heli Shikhar Summit 2023) was jointly organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in collaboration with the **Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans Limited** and **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**.
- The theme of the event was '**Reaching the Last Mile: Regional Connectivity through Helicopters and Small Aircraft**'.
- An inaugural session followed by a technical session was organized during the event.
- The main objectives of this summit are as follows:
 - To provide a common platform for all industry stakeholders and policy makers to discuss the growth story of the Indian helicopter and small aircraft industry.
 - To increase the scope of UDAN scheme in remote and hilly areas and to expand rural to urban connectivity in the country.
 - To promote connectivity through helicopters and small aircraft to existing and potential tourist hotspots by providing seamless services.
- UDAN 5.2 has been launched for further enhancing the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country and achieving last-mile connectivity through small aircraft such as 1A (<9 seats) and Category 1 (<20 seats).
- Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia informed that Udaan 5.2 has been introduced for helicopters and under this VGF has been increased and fare cap has been reduced. Along with this, a single window service platform of Heli Sewa has also been started.
- Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia also launched the Heli-Sewa mobile application during the programme.
- It is noteworthy that the Heli Sewa Portal is an initiative of the Ministry of Civil Aviation under Digital India. Under this, a common platform has been established to create an ecosystem between helicopter operators and district officials.
- This mobile application will make it much more convenient in terms of user experience, content uploading and access.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between Pawan Hans and Jet Serve on the occasion to further the helicopter and small aircraft sector in India.