

9. With more airlines at the brink of bankruptcy, the govt of India has to revisit the aviation flag scheme. Analyse?

- Airlines affected more due to the COVID-19 when compared with other transportation modes that too international airlines was completely silenced from their activities.

- Since the COVID-19 turbulence made the government to amend various normality and adapt to the situation thus it is a time to make some changes in the domestic aviation scheme 'UDAN' which was in a worrying state even before the pandemic.

Why to revisit the UDAN?

- UDAN was a scheme to ensure connectivity between the regions (unserved and underserved) through airways at a subsidised price. The operating airways will have benefits for 3 years such as VMT of 1% of aviation turbine fuel, subsidised parking charges etc.

* UDAN looked deeper into the supply side factors but had a long oversight into the demand factors thus there was a huge demand supply mismatch.

th UDAN scheme increased the burden for middle class flyers transiting between metros

* There were so much of ghost airports in the Country remaining unserved after a short period from the start of service because of unviability.

These factors made the scheme for unfavourable for private players but the Air India's Subsidiary continued the service just to increase its financial burden.

What measures can be carried out?

- Various stakeholders can be brought in using the ample time virtually to devise a wholistic scheme.

- The demand-supply analysis should be properly analysed and transit routes should be arranged based on the study, which should provide minimal returns (assured)

- The continuous encouragement by the Government to make affordable people to use the service and also the private players, thus the scheme should be devised in a flexible manner to sort out the initial hiccups.

Global Community can sit together for developing a scheme for the post COVID-19 world, it can even sort out various issues unaddressed in the long back Chicago Convention.