



**PHD Research Bureau**  
PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry



## **First direct flight operations flagged off on Imphal – Shillong route under UDAN**

### **New milestone achieved in strengthening aerial connectivity with North East India**

The first direct flight operations between Imphal (Manipur) & Shillong (Meghalaya) was flagged off yesterday under the RCS-UDAN (Regional Connectivity Scheme — Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) of the Government of India. The operationalization of this route fulfills the objectives of the Government of India to establish strong aerial connectivity in priority areas of North East India.

The aerial connectivity between the capital cities of Manipur & Meghalaya has been a long-awaited demand of the people of the region. Due to the non-availability of any direct mode of transportation, people were compelled to cover a long 12-hour journey by road to reach Shillong from Imphal or they had to take a flight to LokpriyaGopinathBordoloi International Airport, Guwahati, then bus service to reach Shillong. The completion of the entire journey took more than 1 day to reach Shillong from Imphal or vice-versa.

Shillong is the second city to be connected with Imphal under the UDAN scheme. Till date, 361 routes and 59 airports (including 5 heliports and 2 water aerodromes) have been operationalized under the UDAN scheme. The scheme is envisaged to establish strong aerial connectivity in all States and UTs of the country which hitherto were not connected, laying the foundation of a new regional segment in India's aviation market.

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Warm Regards,

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