

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 61
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd December 2024)

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AIRPORTS

*61. SHRI BABURAM NISHAD

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) Government plans to develop 50 additional airports in the next five years, the manner in which this initiative aims to enhance the airport ecosystem in the country; and
(b) the manner in which the expansion of the airport network would contribute to employment generation and boost commercial activity in the aviation sector?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) AND (B) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 61 FOR REPLY ON 02.12.2024 REGARDING "DEVELOPMENT OF NEW AIRPORTS" ASKED BY SHRI BABURAM NISHAD

(a) and (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country, making air travel affordable to the masses. The Scheme is demand driven. With the budgetary support of Rs. 1000 crore, the Government of India has approved the proposal of Revival/Development of 50 more unserved and underserved Airports/Helipads/Water Aerodromes and Advance Landing Grounds (ALGs) during the period of 03 years i.e. from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2026. As on date, 609 routes connecting 86 unserved and underserved airports (including 13 heliports and 2 water aerodromes) have so far been operationalised under the Scheme. More than 146 lakh domestic passengers have travelled through 2.86 Lakh RCS flights.

Further, Government of India (GoI) has accorded 'In-Principle' approval for setting up of 21 Greenfield Airports across the country namely Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura, Hassan and Shivamogga in Karnataka, Dabra (Gwalior) in Madhya Pradesh, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh, Dholera and Rajkot (Hirasar) in Gujarat, Karaikal in Puducherry, Dagadathi, Bhogapuram and Oravakal (Kurnool) in Andhra Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, Pakyong in Sikkim, Kannur in Kerala and Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh.

Out of these, 12 Greenfield airports viz. Durgapur, Shirdi, Kannur, Pakyong, Kalaburagi, Orvakal (Kurnool), Sindhudurg, Kushinagar, Itanagar (Hollongi), Mopa, Shivamogga and Rajkot (Hirasar) have been operationalised. The probable dates of completion of airports at Navi Mumbai, Vijayapura, Noida (Jewar), Hassan, Dholera and Bhogapuram is within the next two years.

Airports have emerged as a nucleus of economic activities and have multiplier effect on the economy of the State. The linkage between the Civil Aviation Sector and Economic Growth is well recognised. Development of airports leads to increase in passenger movements, tourism development, employment generation and augmentation in circle rates of land valuation leading to enhanced collection of various taxes/stamp duties etc., in the respective State and in the overall development of the Country. International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) study shows that the air connectivity has an economic multiplier of 3.25 and employment multiplier of 6.1.
