

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 832
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th July 2025)**

EXPANSION AND UPGRADATION OF REGIONAL AIRPORTS

832. **SHRI TEJVEER SINGH**

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any concrete plan for the expansion and upgradation of regional and tier-2 airports in the country under the UDAN scheme;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed projects including estimated cost, timelines and the present status thereof; and
- (c) whether these projects are facing delays due to land acquisition issues, environmental clearances or financial constraints and the steps taken by Government to address such bottlenecks?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) & (b): The Government has launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) scheme to facilitate regional air connectivity by reviving unserved and underserved airports in Tier-2 & Tier-3 cities. The Government has also announced the launch of the modified UDAN Scheme to enhance regional connectivity to 120 new destinations. The scheme will also support helipads and smaller airports in hilly, aspirational and North East region districts.

Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) is a demand-driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/stations and routes. Based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, interested airlines submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. Revival / up-gradation of unserved and underserved airports is undertaken upon its identification through valid bid and award to the Selected Airline Operator (SAO).

(c) : The timeline for the completion of an airport project depends upon various factors such as land acquisition, mandatory clearances, removal of obstacles, financial closure etc. by the respective airport developers. To ensure timely

implementation of airport expansion and modernization projects, regular monitoring is conducted at various levels in the Ministry of Civil Aviation in coordination with relevant stakeholders. The progress of upgradation works and the removal of bottlenecks are systematically tracked to mitigate delays.
