

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1626
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15th December 2025)**

**PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP FIFTY ADDITIONAL AIRPORTS OVER THE
NEXT FIVE YEARS**

1626. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to develop fifty additional airports over the next five years, if so, the detailed plan and timeline drawn for completion of each airport, particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the manner in which the said initiative aims to enhance the airport ecosystem across the country; and
- (c) the manner in which the expansion of the airport network would contribute to job creation and boost commercial activities in the aviation sector?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) and (b): Government is constantly in the endeavour to develop and operationalise more airports to cater to the aspirations of people for air travel. In this regard, Government is following multi pronged approach of developing Greenfield Airports, developing existing airstrips through Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN), and AAI's own initiatives in airport development. As a result, the total number of operational airports in the country has increased to 164 including Greenfield Airports/helipads/Water Aerodrome.

Further, development works at Greenfield airports at Vijayapura, Noida (Jewar), Hassan, Dholera and Bhogapuram have also been undertaken. Government has also announced the launch of Modified UDAN Scheme to enhance regional connectivity to 120 new destinations and carry 4 crore passengers in the next 10 years. In the state of Tamil Nadu, development works at Vellore and Neyveli airports has been completed. Besides, "In principle" approval has also been granted to State Government of Tamil Nadu for development of a new Greenfield Airport at Parandur, near Chennai.

(c): 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.
