

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 25
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1st December 2025)**

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UDAN IN TAMIL NADU

25. SHRI R. DHARMAR

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

- (a) current status of implementation of the UDAN regional connectivity scheme across the country, particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) number of routes awarded, operationalized, and pending under UDAN scheme in the State since its inception;
- (c) whether Government is aware of delays or cancellations of UDAN routes in the State, reasons therefor to;
- (d) the funds allocated, released, and utilized under UDAN scheme for Tamil Nadu during last three financial years; and
- (e) steps being taken by Government to enhance regional air connectivity to tier-2 and tier-3 cities such as Salem, Hosur, Neyveli, and Vellore under future phases of the UDAN scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) Under RCS - UDAN, 651 routes connecting 93 unserved/underserved airports (including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes) have been operationalised nationwide. In Tamil Nadu, UDAN flights are operational from Salem.

(b) & (c) Tamil Nadu has been awarded 68 UDAN routes, of which 26 have been operationalised, while 12 are yet to commence. Delays/cancellations are mainly due to various extraordinary reasons viz. weather, technical, operational, ATC, ramp, airport issues, etc., which could not have been avoided even if all reasonable measures had been taken by the airline.

(d) Funds released for the development of RCS airports in Tamil Nadu are:

Vellore: Rs.58.52 crore

Neyveli: Rs. 26.43 crore

Salem: Rs. 24.44 crore

(e) Under the Modified UDAN scheme, the Government aims to expand connectivity to 120 new destinations and cater to 4 crore passengers in the next decade. Salem has already been operationalised under UDAN. Development at Neyveli and Vellore is complete and licensing is underway. Hosur Airport could not be taken up under UDAN due to the 150-km restriction under the Concession Agreement with BIAL, and was therefore removed from subsequent rounds.
