

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 823  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025)**

**EXPANSION OF RCS AND UDAN IN KARNATAKA**

823.      **SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA**

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

- (a) whether Government has expanded Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) under the UDAN scheme in the State of Karnataka and other States;
- (b) the number of new airports and flight routes operational in the State of Karnataka under UDAN during the last three years;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure affordable air travel for residents of smaller towns and rural areas; and
- (d) the measures taken to improve airport infrastructure and passenger facilities in these regions?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), 651 RCS routes connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, have been operationalised across the nation. More than 157 lakh passengers have benefited from the operation of 3.27 lakh RCS flights under the Scheme. In the state of Karnataka, seven (07) airports and 118 routes have been operationalised so far under the Scheme.

(c) & (d): To keep regional air travel affordable, the government has launched the RCS-UDAN Scheme which offers financial incentives to airlines through Central/State Government and airport operator concessions, along with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to cover cost-revenue gaps. Airfares for VGF-supported RCS seats are capped at subsidized rates for three years, with quarterly indexation. These measures enhance affordability, accessibility, and passenger convenience, supporting regional connectivity and economic growth.

Modernisation and development of infrastructure facilities at the existing airports is a continuous process undertaken by the Airport Operator/Developer depending upon passenger demand, operational safety, airline interest, land availability and

financial viability.

\*\*\*\*\*