

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. : 173

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9th March 2026

MODERNISATION OF KOLHAPUR AIRPORT

173. SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to expand and modernize Kolhapur airport in the State of Maharashtra to improve regional air connectivity;
- (b) the present status of runway expansion, navigational aids and safety infrastructure at the airport;
- (c) whether any timelines have been fixed for attracting additional airlines and destinations under the UDAN or other schemes; and
- (d) the measures being taken to address operational challenges so as to ensure regular, affordable and reliable air services for passengers, businesses and tourists from the Kolhapur region?

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 173 FOR REPLY ON 09.03.2026 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF KOLHAPUR AIRPORT ASKED BY SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK

(a) & (b): The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has requested 65.71 acre land from the State Government of Maharashtra for extension of runway to 2300 meters at Kolhapur Airport. Out of the total land requirement, 22.12 acres have been taken over by AAI. The commencement of the runway extension work is contingent upon the handing over of the remaining land by the State Government, free from all encumbrances.

With regard to navigational and safety infrastructure, Doppler Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (DVOR) and High Power Distance Measuring Equipment (HPDME) have been installed and operationalised on 31.10.2024. In addition, AAI has undertaken installation of a new Instrument Landing System (ILS) at the airport.

(c) & (d): Kolhapur Airport has been developed and operationalised under the Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN. With the repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, Indian domestic aviation has been fully deregulated. Airlines are free to select markets and routes, induct any aircraft type, and operate in compliance with the Routes Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) issued by the government. Therefore, the decision to introduce air services to or from any airport depends on the airline operator's operational and commercial viability.
