

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 189

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd February 2026

**PASSENGERS TAKING FLIGHTS IN GUJARAT AS A RESULT OF
UDAN SCHEME**

189. **SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL**

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

- (a) whether there has been a percentage increase in the number of passengers taking flights in the State of Gujarat as a result of Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of airports that have been constructed and are currently operational as against the target of achieving 220 airports by 2026, State-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for the delay in accomplishing the targets set under UDAN scheme?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): Yes, there has been an increase in number of domestic passengers handled by airports in Gujarat. The details of domestic passenger handled during last 3 years is attached as Annexure-A. Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN), a total of 93 unserved and underserved airports (including 15 heliports and 02 water aerodromes) have been operationalized across the country as on 20.01.2026. More than 160 lakh domestic passengers have travelled, with approx. 3.36 lakh RCS flights operated under the scheme across the country.

In the State of Gujarat, eight airports, including two water aerodromes have been developed and operationalised for RCS flight operations under the Scheme. So far, 71 routes have been operationalised in the State of Gujarat. The State-wise list of airports is at Annexure-B.

(c): Non-fulfilment or delay in accomplishing the targets set under UDAN scheme is mainly due to factors such as completion of the three-year Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support period, poor visibility conditions, daytime runway restrictions at VFR-only airports, shortage of aircraft, leasing issues, temporary discontinuation by airlines, novation of routes and low passenger load factors. To address these challenges, the government provides viability gap funding (VGF) to airlines, supports the upgrading of regional airports and encourages operational flexibility. Further, eligible routes that were discontinued in the past rounds due to various reasons such as airline failure, are re-bid, awarded and operationalised in the subsequent rounds.

Annexure-A

Domestic Passengers Handled by Airports in Gujarat		
Year	Passenger Handled (In Million)	Growth Rate wrt Previous Year
2022-2023	12.00	-
2023-2024	13.69	14.05%
2024-2025	15.62	14.10%

Annexure-B

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Airports
1)	A&N island (UT)	1
2)	Andhra Pradesh	6
3)	Arunachal Pradesh	4
4)	Assam	7
5)	Bihar	4
6)	Chandigarh (UT)	1
7)	Chhattisgarh	4
8)	Daman & Diu (UT)	1
9)	Delhi (UT)	2
10)	Goa	2
11)	Gujarat	13
12)	Haryana	1
13)	Himachal Pradesh	5
14)	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	2
15)	Jharkhand	3
16)	Karnataka	10
17)	Kerala	4
18)	Ladakh (UT)	1
19)	Lakshdweep (UT)	1
20)	Madhya Pradesh	8
21)	Maharashtra	16
22)	Manipur	3
23)	Meghalaya	1
24)	Mizoram	1
25)	Nagaland	1
26)	Odisha	5
27)	Puducherry (UT)	1
28)	Punjab	5
29)	Rajasthan	7
30)	Sikkim	1
31)	Tamil Nadu	6
32)	Telangana	2
33)	Tripura	1
34)	Uttar Pradesh	17
35)	Uttarakhand	12
36)	West Bengal	5
	Grand Total	164

