

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2409

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th August 2026

**STATUS AND REVAMPING OF THE REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY
SCHEME (RCS-UDAN)**

2409. DR. PARMAR JASHVANTHSINH SALAMSINH
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE
SHRI NARESH BANSAL

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

- (a) the total number of unserved and underserved airports, heliports and water aerodromes that have been operationalised under RCS-UDAN since its inception, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the total amount of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) disbursed to airline operators during the last three years, year-wise, along with the total number of RCS flights operated and passengers who have benefited from subsidised airfares during the said period; and
- (c) the details of the implementation plan for the Modified UDAN framework, including its implementation timeline, fund allocation strategy and the selection criteria adopted for identification of airports, heliports and routes under the scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Under the UDAN scheme, 95 airports, including 17 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, have been developed and operationalised across the country. As on 10.07.2026, over 1.68 crore domestic passengers have travelled on more than 3.58 lakh RCS flights. The State/UT-wise list of airports, heliports and water aerodromes operationalised under the UDAN Scheme is at Annexure-I. Further, the details of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) disbursed to the airlines under the UDAN scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise are at Annexure-II.

(c): The next phase of the UDAN Scheme has been launched on 04.07.2026 to promote regional air connectivity in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities and remote regions across the country, targeting 120 new destinations and 4 crore passengers over the

next 10 years. The Scheme is being implemented from F.Y. 2026-27 to F.Y. 2035-36 with an outlay of Rs. 28,840 crore, including development of 100 airports from existing unserved airstrips with an outlay of Rs. 12,159 crore and Rs. 3,661 crore for development of 200 heliports in Hilly, North-Eastern and Aspirational (HINER) areas.

The Scheme provides a Challenge Mode framework under which State Governments may nominate aerodromes and helipads for development. Proposals are evaluated based on availability of encumbrance-free land, infrastructure readiness, technical and operational feasibility, traffic potential, statutory clearances and support of the State Governments.

Annexure-I**State/UT-wise list of airports, heliports and water aerodromes operationalised under the UDAN Scheme**

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Airports/Heliports/Water Aerodromes
1	Andhra Pradesh	2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3
3	Assam	4
4	Bihar	2
5	Chhattisgarh	3
6	Daman & Diu	1
7	Gujarat	8
8	Haryana	1
9	Himachal Pradesh	6
10	Jharkhand	2
11	Karnataka	7
12	Kerala	1
13	Lakshadweep	1
14	Madhya Pradesh	3
15	Maharashtra	7
16	Manipur	2
17	Meghalaya	1
18	Nagaland	1
19	Odisha	4
20	Pondicherry (UT)	1
21	Punjab	4
22	Rajasthan	3
23	Sikkim	1
24	Tamil Nadu	1
25	Uttar Pradesh	11
26	Uttarakhand	13
27	West Bengal	2
	Total	95

Annexure-II**VGF disbursed to the airlines under the UDAN Scheme from 2023 to till date**
(in Rs. Crores)

Name of the States /UTs	FY : 2023-24	FY: 2024-25	FY: 2025-26
Andhra Pradesh	20.93	6.76	-
Arunachal Pradesh	31.79	14.95	28.93
Assam	19.08	31.04	16.92
Bihar	-	-	10.30
Chhattisgarh	31.38	2.04	4.31
Diu	-	-	24.87
Gujarat	42.13	64.42	31.80
Himachal Pradesh	26.83	15.96	11.33
Jharkhand	3.23	4.03	3.93
Karnataka	91.32	54.09	85.31
Lakshadweep	-	18.62	24.75
Madhya Pradesh	35.93	1.89	15.78
Maharashtra	21.29	96.64	172.92
Manipur	-	4.22	7.09
Meghalaya	19.52	10.50	2.77
Nagaland	3.56	5.01	-
Odisha	43.28	21.84	13.53
Punjab	8.33	39.75	41.17
Rajasthan	14.55	40.95	55.39
Sikkim	3.69	-	1.80
Tamil Nadu	6.29	22.87	27.66
Uttar Pradesh	120.10	121.18	56.25
Uttarakhand	24.84	45.76	73.13
West Bengal	25.15	6.29	6.38
Total	593.23	628.80	716.31