

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 807
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July 2026
LAUNCH OF 'EASY CONNECT' HUBS AND SPOKE
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT MODEL

807. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD
DR. PARMAR JASHVANTHSINH SALAMSINH
SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL
SHRI RAJIB BHATTACHARJEE
DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI
SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH
SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA

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

- (a) the passenger feedback figures following the successful launch of India's first 'Easy Connect' hub-and-spoke international flight model;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any feasibility study to extend this integrated international check-in transit model in other Tier-II and Tier-III cities;
- (c) if so, the details of the selected airports;
- (d) the number of jobs estimated to be generated by 2030 through the approved modernisation plan for International airports in the country; and
- (e) the details and progress of long-term public-private partnership licensing models implemented to upgrade passenger amenities?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Hub & Spoke operations on 25.06.2026, with Varanasi as the spoke and Delhi as the hub. The Hub & Spoke model is intended to facilitate international connectivity in a phased approach. Expansion of the model to other international airports depends upon commercial viability, passenger demand and infrastructure availability.

No adverse passenger feedback has been received since the launch of Hub & Spoke operations.

(d): Airports have emerged as a nucleus of economic activities and have multiplier effect on the economy of the State. International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) study shows that the air connectivity has an economic multiplier of 3.25 and employment multiplier of 6.1.

(e) Eight airports namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Mangaluru, Lucknow, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Jaipur and Thiruvananthapuram of Airports Authority of India (AAI) have been given on long term lease for operation, management and development to Concessionaires, under Public Private Partnership (PPP).
