

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 413
(To be answered on the 8th December 2022)**

NEW AIRPORTS UNDER UDAN SCHEME

413. SHRI VELUSAMY P.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish new airports under UDAN Scheme in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the places selected in Tamil Nadu;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up small airport in Palani which is one of the Hindu pilgrimage centre in Tamil Nadu;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Deshka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation / development for commencement of RCS operations, is developed under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme. The UDAN scheme does not envisages to establish new airports.

In the state of Tamil Nadu, five airports namely Salem, Neyveli, Tanjore, Vellore and Ramnad, have been identified for up-gradation for the operation of flights under UDAN. Operation of RCS flights from Salem has commenced.

(c) to (e): Palani airstrip is not available in the UDAN document. However, for the forthcoming round of bidding under UDAN, if the State Government of Tamil Nadu requests to include the same under UDAN, the same shall be considered as per the provisions of scheme document.
