

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 179  
(To be answered on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023)**

**GROWTH OF AVIATION SECTOR**

**179. SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) the details of the growth rate registered in the aviation sector during the last four years in the country;**
- (b) whether any district of Bihar has been included for construction of airports under the UDAN scheme and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether necessary steps have been taken by the Government to include Supaul district of Bihar under the said scheme; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the growing demand in the aviation sector in future?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

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

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**(a): The aviation sector in India has been affected adversely due to COVID-19 which resulted in airlines suffering financial losses and drop in passenger traffic. However, the situation is now improving as witnessed by rebound in air travellers. As per the information provided by the Scheduled Indian Carriers, the total number of passengers carried in scheduled domestic and scheduled international operations for 2019-20 to 2022-23 (provisional) is as per Annexure-I.**

**(b) to (c): Darbhanga airport in Bihar has been identified and operationalized under UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). Birpur Airstrip situated in Supaul District is owned by the State Government of Bihar and figures in the tentative list of unserved airports in the UDAN Scheme Document. However, none of the airlines have submitted any proposal to operate RCS flights from Birpur, so far. In case, any airline submits a valid bid connecting Birpur Airstrip, the same will be considered as per the provisions of the UDAN Scheme.**

**(d): The Government has planned to develop one hundred airports by 2024 to support UDAN scheme and operationalise 1000 RCS routes during the currency of the Scheme. Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) have operationalised 459 UDAN routes involving 72 Airports/Heliports/Water Aerodromes across the country as on 30.01.2023. UDAN is an ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted periodically for covering more destinations/stations and routes under the scheme.**

**Upgradation/ Modernisation of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other Airport Operators from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand / willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports. AAI and other Airport Operators have targeted capital outlay of approximately Rs. 98,000 crore in the airport sector across India in the next five years for expansion and modification of existing terminals, new terminals and strengthening of runways, among other activities.**

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