

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 707
(To be answered on the 6th February 2020)**

OPERATIONAL AIRPORTS

707. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the total number of airports established and operating in the country at present;
- (b) whether it is true that all the airports are not being used in the country at present and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the total amount spent on the maintenance of such airports in the country; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to make these airports usable and to put an end to loss of money on account of maintenance and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

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- (a): There are a total of 495 airports/airstrips established in the country owned by Defence establishments, Airports Authority of India (AAI), State Governments, Private companies etc. Out of these, 137 airports are owned and managed by AAI. At present, 109 airports are operational.
- (b): Yes, Sir. Many of the airports/airstrips in the country are not being used (non-operational) owing to lack of demand, lack of infrastructure and commercial unviability.
- (c): AAI has spent Rs. 46.73 crore on the maintenance of its non-operational airports in the year 2018-19.
- (d): Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) in October, 2016 with the objective to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity to currently under-served and un-served airports in the country, including those belonging to AAI. The expansion of airports under the scheme is 'demand driven', depending upon firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions.