

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. : 49
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th November 2024)**

FUNCTIONAL AIRPORTS AND AIRSTRIPS

49. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH

SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of functional airports/airstrips in the country at present;**
- (b) the number of airports/airstrips out of the said functional airports/airstrips constructed since 2014;**
- (c) the details of domestic air passenger traffic data since 2014, year-wise;**
- (d) the details of ten airports with the highest number of domestic passengers this year; and**
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make air travel more affordable for citizens?**

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E)
IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 49
FOR REPLY ON 28.11.2024 REGARDING "FUNCTIONAL
AIRPORTS AND AIRSTRIPS" ASKED BY SHRI KRIPANATH
MALLAH AND SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH
BAPURAO;; (a): At present, there are 157 operational**

aerodromes (including heliports and water aerodromes) in the country. (b): Since 2014, 83 aerodromes have been constructed/ made operational in the country.; (c): The year-wise details of domestic air passenger traffic handled at airports in the country since 2014 are at Annexure I.; (d): The details of ten airports with the highest number of domestic passengers based on the provisional data for the current FY 2024-25 upto October, 2024 are at Annexure II.; (e): The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. The RCS-UDAN Scheme seeks to make air travel more accessible and affordable to a larger population from Tier-II and Tier-III cities. The scheme has expanded the domestic aviation market, thereby increasing the number of air passengers and flight frequencies. 609 routes, connecting 86 airports, including 13 heliports & 02 water aerodromes, have so far been operationalised. More than 144 lakh domestic passengers have travelled through 2.83 lakh UDAN flights. To address the anticipated growth in air traffic, AAI and other Airport Operators have targeted capital outlay of more than Rs. 91,000 crore in the airport sector during 2019-24 under National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) for construction of Greenfield Airports and new terminals, expansion and modernisation of existing terminals and strengthening of runways, among other activities and already spent approximately Rs.81300 crore. The total number of operational airports in the country has risen to 157, with a combined capacity to handle over 530 million passengers per annum (MPPA), compared to an actual footfall of 220 million passengers in the financial year

2023-24. Additionally, Government of India has established an independent economic regulator i.e Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) for determination of Tariff for aeronautical services rendered at Major Airports which aims to optimally balance the interest of service provider and the end user and ensures that the airport operator maintains and operates the airport with reasonable return on investment.

ANNEXURE I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 49 for 28.11.2024

Statement of Number of Passengers Carried by Scheduled Indian Operators for Scheduled Domestic Operations	
Year	Passenger (In numbers)
2014	66,772,641
2015	80,753,743
2016	99,475,474
2017	116,775,928
2018	138,698,284
2019	143,736,256
2020	62,858,348
2021	82,745,079
2022	123,242,014
2023	152,040,530
2024(P)- (Upto Oct 24')	132,148,887

ANNEXURE II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 49 for 28.11.2024

Sl.No.	Top 10 Domestic Airports in 2024(P)-(up to Oct 2024)	Passenger (In numbers)
1	DELHI	46,058,788
2	MUMBAI	32,111,146
3	BENGALURU	28,746,030
4	HYDERABAD	18,813,052
5	KOLKATA	15,154,491
6	CHENNAI	13,132,837
7	AHMEDABAD	8,576,305
8	PUNE	8,361,082
9	DABOLIM	5,316,402
10	GUWAHATI	5,007,414
(P)- Provisional		