

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4062
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2024)
INCREASE IN DOMESTIC AIR TRAFFIC

4062. SHRI GADDIGOUDAR
PARVATAGOUDA CHANDANAGOUDA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that domestic air traffic hits 5,00,000 mark, the highest ever single day passenger footfall during the last few weeks and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the top fifteen airports with the highest number of domestic passengers footfall during the current year;**
- (c) the domestic air passenger traffic data since 2014, year-wise; and**
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to make air travel more easy and affordable for citizens in the country?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) The domestic passenger traffic has crossed the 5,00,000 mark on 17th and 24th November 2024.**
- (b) The top fifteen airports with the highest number of domestic passengers footfall handled during the current year is given at Annexure-I.**
- (c) The domestic air passenger traffic data from 2013-14 to 2023-24 is given at Annexure-II.**

(d) The Government launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) in October 2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country for making air travel affordable to the masses. 615 routes connecting 87 Aerodromes (including 13 Heliports and 2 water-aerodromes) have been operationalised under the RCS-UDAN Scheme as on date. To ensure the affordability of regional air travel, the UDAN scheme provides financial incentives to airline operators on regional routes that include: Concessions by the Central Government, State Governments/ Union Territories and airport operators to reduce airline operation costs and also the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to bridge the gap between operational costs and expected revenues on such routes. The airfare on the RCS seats on which VGF is provided to the Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) is for a 3-year tenure and Airfare is capped at a subsidized rate and which is liable to be indexed at every quarter. There is a maximum permissible Airfare cap for RCS seats as specified under the contract, and no airfare cap is fixed for Non-RCS seats. The above measures aim to strengthen affordability, accessibility and overall passenger convenience in the aviation sector, thereby promoting regional development and economic growth.

Annexure-I

Top 15 Airports with highest domestic passengers handled during current year 2024-25 (April-November)		
Rank	Airport	Passengers (In Million)
1	DELHI (DIAL)	37.72
2	MUMBAI (MIAL)	25.77
3	BENGALURU (BIAL)	23.80
4	HYDERABAD (GHIAL)	15.63
5	KOLKATA	12.57
6	CHENNAI	10.68
7	AHMEDABAD	7.04
8	PUNE	6.74
9	GOA (DABOLIM)	4.39
10	GUWAHATI	3.89
11	KOCHI	3.85
12	JAIPUR	3.48
13	LUCKNOW	3.42
14	SRINAGAR	3.07
15	BHUBANESWAR	2.96

Annexure-II

Domestic Passengers Handled at All Indian Airports taken together 2013-14 to 2023-24	
Year	Passengers (In Million)
2013-14	122.30
2014-15	139.33
2015-16	169.29
2016-17	205.68
2017-18	243.28
2018-19	275.22
2019-20	274.51
2020-21	105.25
2021-22	166.80
2022-23	270.34
2023-24	306.79