

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4072
(To be answered on the 19th December 2024)**

IMPROVEMENT OF REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

4072. SHRI E TUKARAM

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to improve Regional and National air connectivity under the UDAN scheme in Karnataka, particularly in Bellary district;
- (b) the details of the progress made during 2024 in the development of new airports, enhancement of air traffic infrastructure and increase in flight operations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities of Karnataka;
- (c) the measures being implemented to reduce the carbon footprint in the aviation sector in Karnataka; and
- (d) the initiatives undertaken by the Government to promote the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels and other eco-friendly practices in airports and airline operations across the said State?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b) : Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) scheme is a demand-driven scheme, wherein airline operators assess the feasibility of operations on a particular route and bid under the scheme from time to time. Selection of airlines is done through a transparent bidding process. As per provisions in UDAN Scheme, revival / upgradation of unserved & underserved airports is done on its identification through valid bid & award to the SAO (Selected Airline Operator). Ten(10) underserved and unserved airports, namely, Bidar, Mysore, Vidyanagar, Hubli, Kalaburgi, Belgaum, Shivamogga, Vijayapura, Karwara and Baldota (Koppal) have been identified in the State of Karnataka for operation of flights under UDAN scheme where all except(3) viz. Baldota (Koppal), Vijayapura & Karwara have been operationalised.

(c) & (d) : Ministry of Civil Aviation has advised all the operational airports

with scheduled operations and developers of the upcoming Greenfield Airports to work towards achieving Carbon Neutrality & Net Zero which inter-alia, includes use of green energy. Since 2014, a total of 80 airports have switched over to 100% green energy usage. Bengaluru Airport in Karnataka has achieved the highest Carbon Accreditation Level 5 of Airports International Council (ACI), whereas, Airports viz. Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad have achieved Level 4+ ACI accreditation. These airports have become Carbon neutral.

Ministry of Civil Aviation, under Atma Nirbhar Bharat vision, has suggested optimum use of national airspace by fully implementing the concept of Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA). This has led to cumulative savings of approximately Rs. 868.1 crore by all reporting airlines by way of significant savings in flight time & fuel usage and also cumulative reduction of more than 188538.5 tonnes in CO2 Emission since 01 Aug 2020.
