

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 652
(To be answered on the 28th November 2024)**

UNUSED AIRSTRIP AT ULUNDURPET

652. DR. D RAVI KUMAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the specific steps taken by the Government to include the unused airstrip in Ulundurpet, Viluppuram Parliamentary constituency under the UDAN scheme;
- (b) the current status of the proposal to set up an airport at the said airstrip;
- (c) the manner in which the Government plans to address the infrastructural and logistical requirements to transform the said airstrip into a functional airport;
- (d) whether the Government foresee the potential benefits for the local community and economy of Viluppuram constituency with the establishment of an airport at the said airstrip and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any feasibility study regarding the inclusion of Ulundurpet airstrip under the UDAN scheme and if so, the details thereof along with the key findings and recommendations of the said study?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (e): Ulundurpet airstrip in Tamil Nadu is available in the list of unserved airports in the documents of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN).

RCS is a demand-driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/stations and routes and the airline operators assess the feasibility of operation on a particular route and submit bids. Revival/up-gradation of unserved and underserved airports is carried out upon its identification through valid bid and award to the Selected Airline Operator.

Five rounds of bidding have so far been completed under the Scheme. However, no valid bid connecting Ulundurpet airstrip has so far been received. Therefore, the airstrip at Ulundurpet has not been taken up for

revival under UDAN.
