

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**  
**Lok Sabha**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 659**  
**( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th November 2024 )**  
**AVIATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN ODHISHA**

**659. SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) the steps being taken to enhance air connectivity and upgrade airport infrastructure in Odisha in view of promotion of tourism, trade and commerce, and economic development;**
- (b) the current status of the development of new airports and expansion of existing airports of Odisha;**
- (c) whether the Government has considered introducing flights to connect major cities and Phulbani in Odisha particularly during the season; and**
- (d) whether any timeline has been fixed for starting the regular flight to Gudari Airstrip in Kandhamal, Odisha under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a)&(b): Four airports at Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela and Jeypore in the State of Odisha have been operationalised under the Regional Connectivity Scheme ( RCS) - UDAN. Further, Rangeilunda, Amarda and Rairangpur (Dandabose) airstrips have been identified for development.**

**The development work at Rangeilunda is currently underway by the State Government. The development of the Amarda and Rairangpur airports is currently in the planning stage.**

**(c)&(d): Gudari Airstrip, also known as Phulbani Airstrip, owned by the Government of Odisha figures in the list of unserved airports in the UDAN Document.**

**UDAN is an ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/stations and routes. Revival / up-gradation of unserved and underserved airports is undertaken upon its identification through valid bid and award to the Selected Airline Operator (SAO).**

**None of the airline bidders has submitted the proposal to operate RCS flight from Gudari airstrip till the completion of five rounds of bidding under UDAN.**

**If any airline applies for routes connecting the Gudari airstrip in future bidding rounds, the same will be considered as per the scheme guidelines.**

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