

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 861
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th December 2025)
GROWTH OF AVIATION INFRASTRUCTURE

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SMT. LOVELY ANAND

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the total number of airports, heliports and water aerodromes currently operational in the country along with the details of their growth during the last ten years, year-wise;
- (b) the number of operational air routes and the total number of passengers travelled during 2024-25;
- (c) the concrete measures taken by the Government to make air travel more affordable and accessible for the common citizens till date;
- (d) the latest initiatives taken by the Government for modernization and expansion of airport infrastructure in the country including in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities to meet global standards; and
- (e) the details of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) provided to the airlines thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- (a) : India's aviation industry has experienced significant growth in the past decade. The number of operational airports in the country has more than doubled from 74 in 2014 to 164 in 2025. The major factor contributing to this expansion is the Regional Connectivity Scheme-Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), launched in 2016 to enhance regional air connectivity and make air travel affordable.
- (b) : A total of 23.96 Crore Passengers (16.55 Crore Domestic Passengers + 7.41 Crore International Passengers) have travelled through Scheduled Domestic and International Flights during the Financial Year 2024-25. As per the approved

schedule, state-wise connectivity of Winter Schedule-2024 and Summer Schedule-2025 is attached as Annexure-I and Annexure-II.

(c) to (e) : 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 is capped at a subsidized rate, which is liable to be indexed every quarter. The above measures aim to strengthen affordability, accessibility and overall passenger convenience in the aviation sector, thereby promoting regional development and economic growth. VGF amount of Rs. 4352 crores has been disbursed to support the Selected Airline Operators.

Modernisation and development of infrastructure facilities at the existing airports is a continuous process, which is undertaken by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) or the concerned Airport Operator / Developer depending upon traffic demand, commercial feasibility, operational requirements for safety of aircraft operation and demand from airlines.

Annexure I**State Wise Air Connectivity – Winter Schedule 2024**

Sl. No.	State	Names of Cities Air linked	No of Airports
States			
1	Andhra Pradesh	Rajamundry, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Vizag, Cuddapah, Kurnool	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Pasighat, Tezu, Ziro, Hollongi	4
3	Assam	Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Silchar, Rupsi	6
4	Bihar	Gaya, Patna, Darbhanga	3
5	Chhattisgarh	Raipur, Bilaspur, Jagdalpur	3
6	Delhi	Delhi	1
7	Goa	Goa, Mopa (new Goa)	2
8	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Jamnagar, Hirasar, Surat, Vadodara, Kandla, Keshod, Bhavnagar	9
9	Haryana	-	0
10	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala, Kullu, Shimla	3
11	Jharkhand	Ranchi, Deoghar, Jamshedpur	3
12	Karnataka	Bangalore, Belgaum, Mangalore, Hubli, Vidyanagar, Mysore, Gulbarga, Shivmoga	8
13	Kerala	Cochin, Trivandrum, Kannur, Kozhikode	4

14	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Khajurao	5
15	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Nasik, Kolhapur, Shirdi, Nanded, Sindhudurg, Gondia, Jalgaon	11
16	Manipur	Imphal	1
17	Meghalaya	Shillong	1
18	Mizoram	Aizwal	1
19	Nagaland	Dimapur	1
20	Orissa	Bhubaneswar, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Jeypore, Utkela	5
21	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Ludhiana, Jalandhar	4
22	Rajasthan	Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Kishangarh	6
23	Sikkim	-	
24	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Tuticorin, Salem	6
25	Telangana	Hyderabad	1
26	Tripura	Agartala	1
27	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Ayodhya, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Kanpur, Hindon, Bareilly, Azamgarh, Chitrakoot, Aligarh, Moradabad, Shravasti	14
28	Uttarakhand	Dehradun, Pant Nagar, Pithoragarh	3
29	West Bengal	Bagdogra, Kolkata, Durgapur, CoochBehar	4
Union Territories			
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	1

2	Lakshadweep Islands	Agatti	1
3	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
4	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	
5	Daman & Diu	Diu	1
6	Puducherry	Pondicherry	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar	2
8	Ladakh	Leh,	1
Number of cities connected by Scheduled domestic carriers			124

Annexure II

State Wise Air Connectivity – Summer Schedule 2025

Sl. No .	State & Union Territories	Names of Cities Air linked	No of Airports
States			
1	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah, Kurnool, Rajamundry, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Vizag,	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Hollongi ,Pasighat, Tezu, Ziro,	4
3	Assam	Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Silchar	5
4	Bihar	Darbhanga ,Gaya, Patna	3
5	Chhattisgarh	Ambikapur, Bilaspur, Jagdalpur, , Raipur	4
6	Delhi	Delhi	1

7	Goa	Goa , Mopa (new Goa)	2
8	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Bhuj, Hirasar, Jamnagar, Kandla, Keshod, Porbandar, Surat, Vadodara	10
9	Haryana	-	0
10	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala, Kullu, Shimla	3
11	Jharkhand	Deoghar, Jamshedpur, Ranchi	3
12	Karnataka	Bangalore, Belgaum, Bidar, Hubli, Gulbarga, Mangalore, Mysore, Shivmoga, Vidyanagar	9
13	Kerala	Cochin, Kannur, Kozhikode, Trivandrum	4
14	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Datia, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Khajurao, Rewa	7
15	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Gondia, Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded , Nashik, Pune, Shirdi, Sindhudurg, Solapur	12
16	Manipur	Imphal	1
17	Meghalaya	Shillong	1
18	Mizoram	Aizwal	1
19	Nagaland	Dimapur	1
20	Orissa	Bhubaneswar, Jeypore, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela	5
21	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Jalandhar, Ludhiana	4
22	Rajasthan	Bikaner, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, Udaipur	6
23	Sikkim	Pakyong	1
24	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Trichy, Tuticorin,	6
25	Telangana	Hyderabad	1
26	Tripura	Agartala	1

27	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Ayodhya, Aligarh, Bareilly, Chitrakoot, Gorakhpur, Hindon, Kanpur, Lucknow, Prayagraj, Moradabad, Shravasti, Varanasi	13
28	Uttarakhand	Dehradun, Pant Nagar, Pithoragarh	3
29	West Bengal	Bagdogra, CoochBehar, Durgapur, Kolkata	4
Union Territories			
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	1
2	Lakshadweep Islands	Agatti	1
3	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
4	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	
5	Daman & Diu	Diu	1
6	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar	2
8	Ladakh	Leh,	1
Number of cities connected by Scheduled domestic carriers			129