

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1909
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30th July 2026)

EXPANSION OF AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IN TAMIL NADU

1909. SHRI SELVAM G
SHRI C N ANNADURAI
DR. RANI SRIKUMAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the growing demand for domestic air travel in Tamil Nadu and the adequacy of airport infrastructure and regional air connectivity to meet such demand and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of passenger traffic and aircraft movements at airports in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, airport-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to strengthen airport infrastructure and expand regional air connectivity under the UDAN Scheme by connecting unserved and underserved locations in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any new airports, additional UDAN routes, terminal expansion projects and runway upgradation works have been approved or are under consideration for the said State; and
- (e) the measures being taken to enhance passenger convenience, improve air connectivity to underserved regions and support tourism, trade and economic growth in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (e):The Government has taken various steps for the development of airport infrastructure, which, inter-alia, include grant of 'In-Principle' approval for construction of new Greenfield airports, upgradation and modernisation of existing airports by AAI, Development/revival of unserved/underserved airports under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) and

promoting private investments in existing and new airports through the Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Further, 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.

The passenger traffic and aircraft movements at airports in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, airport-wise is given at Annexure.

To further strengthen the regional connectivity and support tourism, trade and economic growth in the country including Tamil Nadu, the next phase of the UDAN Scheme has been launched on 04.07.2026. It will promote air connectivity in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities and remote regions across the country, targeting 120 new destinations and 4 crore passengers over the next 10 years. The Scheme is being implemented from FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36 with an outlay of Rs. 28,840 crore, including Rs.12,159 crore for Aerodrome development and Rs. 3,661 crore for development of 200 heliports in Hilly, North-Eastern and Aspirational States/districts.

Annexure

Aircraft Movement and Total Passenger Handled (In Numbers) at Airports in Tamil Nadu						
Airport	2023-2024		2024-2025		2025-2026	
	Aircraft Movement	Passenger	Aircraft Movement	Passenger	Aircraft Movement	Passenger
CHENNAI	145790	21207262	156126	22411290	158702	23017324
COIMBATORE	18396	2904611	21833	3253190	22462	3420745
MADURAI	11927	1285976	13513	1399046	13105	1388062
SALEM	954	42568	2504	130132	2584	127070
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI	14314	1763942	17398	1956851	18858	2221024
TUTICORIN	3020	199761	3676	230151	4366	290398
Total	194401	27404120	215050	29380660	220077	30464623