

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

Rajya Sabha

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 169

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th February 2024

DOMESTIC AIR PASSENGER TRAFFIC

169. SHRI KRISHAN LAL PANWAR

SHRI NARESH BANSAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) the year-wise domestic air passenger traffic data since 2019;**
- (b) the ten airports with the highest number of domestic passengers this year; and**
- (c) the steps taken by Government to make air travel more affordable for citizens?**

ANSWER

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN.
(DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

(a): The details of number of passengers carried by Scheduled Indian Carriers for Scheduled Domestic Operators from 2019 to 2023(p) are at Annexure-I.

(b): Top ten airports with highest number of domestic passengers in 2023 are at Annexure-II.

(c): The Government launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) in October 2016 to enhance regional

air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country for making air travel affordable to the masses. Promoting affordability of regional air connectivity is envisioned under UDAN by supporting Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) through concessions by the Central Government, State Governments/UTs and airport operators to reduce the cost of operations on regional routes and providing financial (Viability Gap Funding or VGF) support to meet the gap. The concessions offered under the scheme are as under:

Airport operators:

- i) Airport operators will not levy Landing and Parking Charges on RCS Flights.**
- ii) AAI shall not levy any Terminal Navigation Landing Charges (TNLC) on RCS Flights.**
- iii) Route Navigation and Facilitation Charges (RNFC) will be levied by AAI on a discounted basis @ 42.50% of Normal Rates on RCS Flights.**
- iv) Selected Airline operators (SAO) will be allowed self-ground handling for operations under the Scheme at all airports.**

Central Government:

- i) Excise Duty at the rate of 2% will be levied on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) purchased by SAOs from RCS Airports for initial period of three years from the date of notification of this scheme.**
- ii) SAOs will have the freedom to enter into code sharing arrangements with both domestic as well as international airlines.**

States Government at RCS Airports within their States:

- i) Reduce VAT to 1% or less on ATF at RCS Airports located within the states for a period of 10 years.**

- ii) Provide minimum land, if required, free of cost and free from encumbrances for development of RCS Airports and provide multi-modal hinterland connectivity as required.**
- iii) Provide security and fire services free of cost at RCS Airports.**
- iv) Providing or cause to be provided, electricity, water and other utility services at substantially concessional rates at RCS Airports.**
- v) Provide a certain share (20% for States other than North-Eastern States where the ratio will be 10%) of determined VGF.**

Passenger growth (%) under Domestic Operations since 2018 to 2023 (P).

| Year | Domestic Operations | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
| | Passenger numbers) | Carried (in | Growth (%) |
| 2019 | 143,736,256 | | 3.6 |
| 2020 | 62,858,348 | | -56.3 |
| 2021 | 82,745,079 | | 31.6 |
| 2022 | 123,242,014 | | 48.9 |
| 2023(P) | 152,040,530 | | 23.4 |
| (P)- Provisional | | | |

Top 10 Airports with highest number of Domestic Passengers in 2023 (P)

| Name of Airport | Passengers |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| DELHI | 53,747,065 |
| MUMBAI | 37,858,792 |
| BENGALURU | 32,543,235 |
| HYDERABAD | 20,221,765 |
| KOLKATA | 17,105,802 |
| CHENNAI | 15,177,501 |
| GOA | 10,749,541 |
| AHMEDABAD | 9,908,563 |
| PUNE | 9,542,232 |
| GUWAHATI | 5,960,294 |
| (P)- PROVISIONAL | |