

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 21
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25th November 2024
KADAPA AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT FOR CONNECTIVITY
WITH RAYALASEEMA REGION

21. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO

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

- (a) the measures taken to develop Kadapa airport to improve connectivity for the Rayalaseema region;**
- (b) the steps taken to increase air connectivity to tribal-dominated districts like East Godavari and Srikakulam; and**
- (c) the details of the funds earmarked for connectivity development to marginalised or disadvantaged regions in the year 2024-25?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme. Based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, interested airlines submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of UDAN and requires upgradation/development for commencement of UDAN operations, is developed under the 'Revival of unserved and underserved airports' scheme.

During the first round of bidding under the UDAN scheme, Kadapa Airport was identified for development to operate RCS flights. The airport was developed at a cost of Rs. 99.47 crores and operationalised under UDAN with connectivity to Hyderabad, Chennai, Vijayawada and Belgaum. Presently Kadapa is connected to Hyderabad, Chennai and Vijayawada.

With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation has been deregulated. Hence, any airline operator may introduce air services to / from any airport in country depending on their operational & commercial viability.
