

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd February 2025
AIR CONNECTIVITY IN THE COUNTRY

2. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA

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

- (a) whether regional connectivity scheme has been launched with the aim of promoting air connectivity in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details of the said scheme; and**
- (c) the total number of new airports proposed to be built in Bihar and in other States of the country and the cities in which new airports are proposed to be built, the State-wise details thereof along with the names of the cities?**

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) : 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. 619 routes connecting 88 Aerodromes (including 13 Heliports and 2 water-aerodromes) have been operationalised under the RCS-UDAN Scheme till 31.01.2025. RCS-UDAN is a market driven scheme in which the unserved and underserved airstrips/airports are listed for bidding by airlines to provide connectivity. Bidding rounds are conducted from time to time for covering more destinations and routes under the 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. On development and readiness of the airport, Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) commence operations on the awarded UDAN routes connecting these airports. SAOs are provided financial (Viability Gap Funding or VGF) support to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such UDAN routes.

(c) : Govt. of India has given In-principle approval for construction of 21 new Greenfield Airports so far. Out of these, 12 Greenfield Airports have been operationalised. State-wise list of 9 Airports yet to be operationalised is attached at Annexure. Apart from the above, proposals for construction of Greenfield Airports at Kota (Rajasthan), Kottayam (Kerala), Parandur (Tamilnadu), Mandi (Himachal Pradesh), Raichur (Karnataka), Hirachera, Kailashahar (Tripura), Doloo Greenfield airport, Cachar (Assam), Karbi Anglong (Assam), Rajgir (Bihar), Puri (Odisha) and Brownfield Airports at Raxaul (Bihar), New Civil Enclave at Bihta (Bihar), Purnea (Bihar) have been received.

Annexure

S. No.	State	Airport
Yet to be Operationalised		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Dagadarthi Mendal. Nellore District
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram District near Vishakhapatnam
3.	Gujarat	Dholera Ahmedabad, Gujarat
4.	Karnataka	Bijapur Airport
5.	Karnataka	Hassan Airport
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Dabra Airport, Gwalior
7.	Maharashtra	Navi Mumbai International Airport
8.	Puducherry	Karaikal
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida International Airport, Jewar