



Hon'ble Prime Minister launches the Next Phase of UDAN and inaugurates the New Terminal Building at Jodhpur Airport

Jodhpur, 05th July 2026: In a major boost to India's civil aviation sector, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the next phase of UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) and inaugurated the New Terminal Building (NTB) at Jodhpur Airport, reaffirming the Government's commitment to expanding regional air connectivity and developing world-class aviation infrastructure.

The event was held in the august presence of Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde, Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan; Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan; Shri Rammohan Naidu Kinjarapu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation; Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister of Culture and Tourism; Shri Murlidhar Mohol, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Cooperation; and other dignitaries.

Launched in October 2016, the UDAN Scheme has transformed regional connectivity by operationalising 669 routes and connecting 95 airports, heliports and water aerodromes, benefitting over 1.66 crore passengers. Building on this success, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, approved the next phase UDAN Scheme on 25 March 2026 with an outlay of approximately ₹29,000 crore over the next ten years to accelerate aviation-led development and advance the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

The Next Phase of UDAN Scheme focuses on expanding regional aviation infrastructure through the development of 100 aerodromes from existing unserved airstrips with an investment of ₹12,159 crore. It also provides ₹2,577 crore towards Operations and Maintenance support for regional airports, development of 200 modern helipads with an investment of ₹3,661 crore, and continued Viability Gap Funding of ₹10,043 crore to sustain regional airline operations. Further strengthening the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, the scheme promotes the induction of indigenous aircraft and helicopters, including HAL Dhruv and Dornier platforms, for operations in underserved and remote regions.

By integrating infrastructure expansion, operational sustainability, last-mile connectivity and indigenous capability development, the next phase of UDAN is expected to deepen economic integration, improve access to essential services and unlock new opportunities for inclusive growth across the country.

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Prime Minister also inaugurated the New Terminal Building at Jodhpur Airport, a significant infrastructure milestone developed by the Airports Authority of India at a cost of ₹480 crore. The new terminal will strengthen connectivity for Jodhpur – Rajasthan's renowned "Blue City" and gateway to the Thar Desert – while supporting the region's growing tourism, trade and economic potential.

Spread across 23,342 square metres, the terminal is designed to handle 1,500 passengers during peak hours and 20 lakh passengers annually. It features 20 check-in counters, advanced security screening systems, modern baggage handling facilities and six aerobridges, ensuring a seamless passenger experience. The newly developed apron can accommodate 11 A-321 aircraft and one ATR-72 aircraft, while the city-side infrastructure provides parking for approximately 320 cars.

The existing terminal, with an annual capacity of about 4 lakh passengers, had reached saturation due to sustained traffic growth. The new facility addresses future demand while incorporating sustainable features such as energy-efficient systems, water conservation measures and green building practices aimed at achieving a 5-Star GRIHA rating. Architecturally inspired by Rajasthan's royal heritage, the terminal blends traditional elements such as arches and jharokhas with contemporary design.

The launch of the Next Phase of UDAN Scheme and the inauguration of the New Terminal Building at Jodhpur Airport together mark another significant milestone in India's aviation journey. These initiatives reinforce the Government's vision of creating an integrated, accessible and future-ready aviation ecosystem that enhances regional connectivity, strengthens airport infrastructure, promotes tourism and trade, and drives inclusive socio-economic development across the nation.

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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Inaugurating the NTB of Jodhpur Airport on 04 July, 2026