

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1443
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5th August 2024)**

AIRPORTS IN ODISHA

1443. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to develop more airports in Odisha, and if so, the details thereof including locations and timeline for completion;
- (b) the criteria and considerations used for selecting these locations;
- (c) the expected impact of the new airports on regional connectivity, economic development, and tourism;
- (d) whether Government is planning to develop more airports in Odisha, if not, the reasons for this decision; and
- (e) whether there are any ongoing proposals from the State Government of Odisha or other stakeholders for additional airports in Odisha, and Government's response to these proposals?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Government of India (GoI) has granted Site clearance on 22.09.2023 to State Government of Odisha for Development of Greenfield Airport at Puri. Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has received an application for 'In-Principle' approval from State Government of Odisha on 23.07.2024 along with Detailed Project Report comprising Techno Economic Feasibility Assessment, Coastal Zone status report and Environment & Socio Impact Assessment Report.

(b): As per Greenfield Airport (GFA) policy, 2008, if any airport developer including the State Government desires to develop an airport, it is required to identify a suitable site and get the Pre-feasibility Study conducted for construction of airport and submit a proposal to (MoCA) for 'Site-Clearance' followed by 'In-Principle' approval.

(c): Airports have emerged as a nucleus of economic activities and have multiplier effect on the economy of the State. The linkage between the Civil Aviation Sector and Economic Growth is well recognised. International Civil Aviation

Organisation (ICAO) study shows that the air connectivity has an economic multiplier of 3.1 and employment multiplier of 6.1.

Further, The development of airports in Odisha is expected to significantly boost regional connectivity, stimulate economic growth, and enhance tourism in Odisha. This will not only benefit the local population but also contribute to the overall development of the state.

(d) & (e): GoI has granted Site Clearance approval for the development of Greenfield Airport at Puri, Odisha.

Further, Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to promote regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. RCS-UDAN is a demand-driven scheme, wherein airline operators assess the feasibility of operation on a particular route and bid under the scheme from time to time. Selection of airlines is done through a transparent bidding process.

Under the RCS-UDAN, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela & Jeypore airports have already been operationalised. In addition to above, airstrips in the State of Odisha namely, Rangeilunda, Amarda and Rairangpur (Dandabose) have also been identified for development and operation of RCS flights therefrom.
