

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 25
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd February 2025)

**AIR CONNECTIVITY OF KORAPUT WITH BHUBANESWAR AND
HYDERABAD**

25. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ

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

- (a) whether Government has any plans to connect Koraput with Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad by air;
- (b) if so, by when the flights from Bhubaneswar to Malkangiri and from Koraput to Hyderabad expected to commence; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve air connectivity for remote regions like Koraput?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Flights connecting Jeypore airport in Koraput district to Bhubaneshwar and Vishakhapatnam are currently being operated by IndiaOne Air under Regional Connectivity - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) Scheme.

(b): UDAN is a market-driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/ stations and routes. Interested airlines, based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) commence operations on the awarded UDAN routes connecting these airports.

(c): Jeypore airport was identified and developed under the UDAN Scheme and operationalised on 3.8.2022.

Malkangiri airstrip, Odisha is available in the list of unserved airports in the UDAN Document for bidding. None of the airline bidders has so far submitted the proposal for the operation of RCS flights from Malkangiri airstrip till the completion of five rounds of bidding under the scheme.
