

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 186
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd February 2026

**NEED FOR HUB-AND-SPOKE OPERATIONS AT HIRASAR INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT, RAJKOT**

186. SHRI KESARIDEVSINH JHALA

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

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of passengers from the Saurashtra region of the State of Gujarat frequently travel abroad, thereby necessitating improved international connectivity;

(b) whether Government is aware that Hirasar International airport, Rajkot, which caters to the entire Saurashtra region, is currently operating without a hub-and-spoke facility;

(c) whether Government proposes to initiate hub-and-spoke operations at Hirasar International airport to ensure efficient connectivity and reduce passenger inconvenience; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken along with the expected timeline for implementation?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : International flight operations are governed by Bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective countries. In accordance with respective ASAs, Indian designated carriers are free to mount operations to/from any point in India including Rajkot (Hirasar) to any foreign destination as per mutually agreed capacity limits. However, the start of direct international flights from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of scheduled airlines on the basis of passenger demand, availability of slots, economic viability of the route, and other associated factors. The Government does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines.

Presently, International Hub and Spoke flights are not operating in the country.
