

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 193
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd February 2026
AIR CONNECTIVITY IN ODISHA

193. SHRI DEBASHISH SAMANTARAY

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

- (a) the present status of air connectivity to Bhubaneswar, Jharsuguda and Rourkela;
- (b) routes operational under the UDAN scheme in the State of Odisha;
- (c) steps taken to improve regional air connectivity in tribal and backward districts;
- (d) passenger traffic growth at the State of Odisha airports during the last three years; and
- (e) whether new airports or heliports are proposed in the State?

ANSWER

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

(a): The present status of air connectivity for Bhubaneswar and Jharsuguda Airport is provided at Annexure - A.

(b) & (c): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), four (04) airports in the State of Odisha, namely, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela, and Jeypore, have been operationalised. Additionally, Rangeilunda, Amarda, and Rairangpur (Dandabose) airstrips in Odisha have been identified for development under the UDAN scheme.

Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN is an ongoing scheme wherein bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations and routes under the scheme. Revival / up-gradation of unserved and underserved airports is undertaken upon their identification through a valid bid and award to the Selected Airline Operator (SAO).

Further, the following airstrips in Odisha are listed as unserved airstrips in the UDAN document: Angul, Barbil, Birasal, Gudari, Hirakud, Jayakpur, Lanjigarh, Nawapara, Padampur, Raisuan, Sukinda, Theruboli, Tushra, Malkangiri, Baripada, and Konark. If any valid bid is received in the future for the operation of RCS flights connecting the above-mentioned airstrips in Odisha, the same shall be considered in accordance with the provisions of the RCS-UDAN document.

(d): The passenger handled at airports in Odisha and the growth rate during the last three years is provided in Annexure B.

(e): In-principle approval has been granted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) to the Government of Odisha for the development of an international greenfield airport at Puri on 06.05.2025.

Annexure-A

The present flight connectivity at Bhubaneswar & Jharsuguda airport

Airport	Airlines Name	City Connected	Sum of Weekly Movements
Bhubaneswar (DOM)	Indigo, Star Air, Air India, Air India Express, Akasa, India One	Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Dehradun, Delhi, Guwahati, Goa Mopa, Shamshabad, Indore, Prayagraj, Ranchi, Chennai, Durgapur, Raipur, Varanasi, Vizag, Jamshedpur, Jeypore, Rourkela, Utkela, Cochin, Port Blair, Pune, Jharsuguda	706
Jharsuguda	Indigo, Alliance Air, Star Air	Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Shamshabad, Lucknow	98

Annexure - B

Sector wise, City-wise Passengers (in numbers) carried with growth to and from Odisha for the last three Financial year 2022-23 to 2024-25				
SECTOR	To/From	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Domestic	BHUBANESHWAR	36,61,206	44,92,703	46,00,423
	JHARSUGUDA	2,15,156	2,35,210	2,99,651
	JEYPORE	2,837	7,498	7,602
	ROURKELA	3,726	13,217	27,069
	UTKELA		623	1,677
(A) Total Scheduled Domestic Passengers		38,82,925	47,49,251	49,36,422
Growth Domestic Passengers			22.3%	3.9%
International	BHUBANESHWAR		96,729	1,21,844
(B) Total Scheduled International Passengers			96,729	1,21,844
Growth International Passengers				26.0%
Total Passengers (A)+(B)		38,82,925	48,45,980	50,58,266
Overall Growth			24.8%	4.4%