

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1633
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd August 2026

**AIR CARGO INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AGRICULTURAL AND
PERISHABLE PRODUCTS IN BIHAR**

1633. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the requirement for dedicated air cargo infrastructure in the State of Bihar to facilitate transportation of agricultural produce, horticultural products, fisheries and other perishable commodities to domestic and international markets;
- (b) whether the absence of integrated cold-chain and air cargo facilities at airports in the State has affected export competitiveness and farmers' income;
- (c) measures taken to strengthen air freight terminals, cold storage facilities and multimodal logistics connectivity in the State; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to develop the State of Bihar as an air cargo hub for agricultural exports from eastern India?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Airports Authority of India Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited (AAICLAS) facilitates transportation of agriculture produce, horticultural products, fisheries and other perishable commodities through the newly constructed domestic air cargo terminal at Patna Airport which has an annual cargo capacity of 21,900 MT and has cold storage facility for handling of perishable commodities. At Darbhanga Airport, seasonal produce is handled through an extension of the Domestic Passenger Terminal, especially for movement of Litchi in coordination with Litchi Growers Association of Bihar and operating airlines. Handling of other seasonal products is also done in coordination with stakeholders.

The development of cargo facilities is a continuous process and depends on various factors such as airport development progress, increase in scheduled operations, handling capacity, growth in domestic cargo volumes and demand from airlines. The Government's approach is to provide a suitable policy and congenial regulatory regime, for the encouragement of infrastructure development, simplification of procedures, technological upgradation, and deployment of skilled manpower, all aimed at efficient and cost-effective air cargo services delivery.
