

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 775  
(To be answered on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017)**

**AIR INDIA EXPANSION PLANS**

**775. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether Air India proposes to expand its regional reach to connect new cities;
- (b) if so, the details of new connectivity which have been started by Air India during the last three years;
- (c) the proposals from the State Governments which have been received by the National carrier therein, particularly from Gujarat State; and
- (d) the details of the present status of the new airports which have been started during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(Shri Jayant Sinha)**

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- (a) and (b): Air India continually conducts market survey and studies to explore new potential routes and destinations. In the last 3 years, Air India has started operations on many new routes. The details of the same are available at Annexure.
  - (c): No proposal has been received by Air India from the State Government of Gujarat for new air connectivity.
  - (d): Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation granted 'in-principle' approval to M/s Bengal Aerotropolis Project Ltd. (BAPL) for setting up of a domestic Greenfield airport at Durgapur in December, 2008. The airport at Durgapur was constructed and the commercial operations have commenced on 18.05.2015, with an Air India ATR-42 flight connecting this airport to Kolkata.

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**2015-16**

- Delhi-Vishakhapatnam-Port Blair & vv from 09<sup>th</sup> Apr'2015
- Delhi-Surat-Delhi from 01<sup>st</sup> Oct'2015.
- Varanasi-Bhubaneswar & vv from 08<sup>th</sup> Nov'2015.
- Mumbai-Calicut vv route with effect from 01<sup>st</sup> November, 2015.
- Kolkata-Durgapur-Delhi and vv from 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec'2015.
- Bengaluru-Trivandrum & vv from 27 Mar 2016

**2016-17**

- Delhi-Chennai-Coimbatore & vv effective 30<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2016
- Leh-Chandigarh & vv effective 31<sup>st</sup> Dec, 2016
- Mumbai-Chandigarh-Mumbai effective 16<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2017
- Chandigarh-Pune-Chandigarh effective 16<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2017

**2017-18**

- Delhi-Rajkot-Delhi effective 03<sup>rd</sup> May, 2017 (03 flights/week)
- Delhi-Rajkot-Delhi frequency increased from 03 /week to 06/week from 01<sup>st</sup> Jun, 2017.
- Delhi-Varanasi-Delhi new flight in the evening from 01<sup>st</sup> Jun, 2017.(04 flights per week)
- Bengaluru-Kolkata-Bhubaneshwar-Hyderabad daily flight w.e.f 10<sup>th</sup> Jun, 2017
- Hyderabad-Bhubaneshwar-Kolkata daily flight w.e.f 10<sup>th</sup> Jun, 2017
- Guwahati-Kolkata-Bengaluru daily flight w.e.f 10<sup>th</sup> Jun, 2017
- Kolkata-Guwahati second daily flight w.e.f 10<sup>th</sup> Jun, 2017