

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 621  
(To be answered on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018)**

**DIRECT INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT FROM BHUBANESWAR**

**621. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government is considering to provide direct International flights from Bhubaneswar Biju Patnaik International Airport to Sri Lanka, Dubai and other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to relax the norms relating to bilateral rights for foreign airlines, so that they can operate direct flights to Dubai from International Airport at Bhubaneswar;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether the Government will extend visa on arrival facility at Biju Patnaik International Airport in Odisha; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(Shri Jayant Sinha)**

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**(a) to (c) : Bhubaneswar is amongst 18 tourist destinations of India from where Indian carriers can operate unlimited number of flights to points in all SAARC (except Pakistan and Afghanistan) and ASEAN countries and reciprocally the designated carriers of these countries can also operate unlimited number of flights to Bhubaneswar and back. Indian carriers also**

can operate from any points in India including Bhubaneswar to foreign destinations including Colombo and Dubai and points in other countries as per agreed bilateral traffic rights. However, start of operation from any airport depends upon the commercial judgement, route viability and availability of aircraft and other resources. Currently designated carriers of Thailand and Malaysia are operating to and from Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar.

(d) to (f): Airlines of foreign countries can only operate to the points of call in the agreed bilateral rights. Bhubaneswar is not available as a point of call to the carriers of Dubai.

(g) to (h): There is no proposal for extending the Visa on Arrival facility at Biju Patnaik International Airport at Bhubaneswar at present.

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