

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
Lok Sabha**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3754  
( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23rd March 2023 )**

**INCREASE IN NUMBER OF DOMESTIC AIR PASSENGERS**

**3754. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT  
SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS  
PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether there has been a huge increase in the number of domestic flight passengers in the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the number and details of the airports constructed during the said years, year, location and district-wise including Maharashtra;**
- (c) whether many international airport facilities are less utilized as private airlines are not allowed to operate services there;**
- (d) if so, the reasons for not granting the requisite permission;**
- (e) the list of the private airlines which have expressed their willingness to operate services from various international airports in the country;**
- (f) whether the Government proposes to allow the private sector airlines to operate flights from international airports; and**
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR)  
V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

**(a): The details of domestic flight passengers in the country during 2019-20 to 2022-23 is attached as Annexure- I.;**

**(b): The details of greenfield airports operationalised in the last three years is attached as Annexure-II. Under the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik), 'Revival of unserved and underserved airports' scheme, 74 unserved and underserved airports including 9 Heliports & 2 water aerodromes have been operationalised as on 28.02.2023. UDAN flight operations from six (6) Airports in the State of Maharashtra namely Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Ozar (Nasik), Nanded, Gondia & Sindhudurg have commenced after the readiness of these airports.**

**(c) & (d): The request of Airlines for operating flight services from Airports is accommodated within the available watch hours and Airport capacity. ;**

**;**

**With the repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they wish to operate across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and their commercial viability, in compliance with the relevant guidelines in this matter. Thus, any airline plans its flight schedule on a specific route/cities based on market demand, commercial feasibility and their company policy.**

**(e) to (g): At present, there are 30 international airports in the country. The Government provides an enabling environment for growth of civil aviation sector but does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines. International flight operations are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective countries. Operation of international flights from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of economic viability of the route and other associated factors.;**

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**ANNEXURE IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3754 FOR ANSWER ON 23.03.2023**

<b>Domestic Air Passenger handled at Indian Airports</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Passengers(in numbers)</b>
2019-20	141,202,237
2020-21	53,330,502
2021-22	84,184,459
2022-23*	123,126,570

\*-The traffic data for 2022-23 is estimated

**ANNEXURE-II**

**ANNEXURE IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3754 FOR  
ANSWER ON 23.03.2023**

**LIST OF GREENFIELD AIRPORTS OPERATIONALISED DURING LAST THREE  
YEARS (2020 ONWARDS)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Name of Airport</b>	<b>Date of Operationalization</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	Oravakallu in Kumool District	28.03.2021
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar	28.11.2022
3	Goa	Mopa Airport	05.01.2023
4	Karnataka	Shivamogga Airport	27.02.2023
5	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg Airport	09.10.2021
6	Uttar Pradesh	Kushinagar	20.10.2021