GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 4942
(To be answered on the 25th March 2021)

COMMERCIAL AIRPORTS

4942. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ

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

(a) the details of the number of airports made commercial airports in the country
during the last three years;
(b) the details of the commercial airports in Chhattisgarh;
(c) whether the Government proposes to convert Raipur airport as a commercial
airport; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
भारत विमानन मंत्रालय में राजनीतिक उपमंत्री (न्यास)
(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Civil Aviation launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)
- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air
connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. RCS - UDAN is a
market driven scheme. The interested airlines based on their assessment of demand
on particular routes submit their proposals at the time of bidding under RCS -
UDAN from time to time. Since its inception, 56 RCS-UDAN airports including 5
heliports and 2 water aerodromes have been operationalised for operating RCS
flights across the country. Out of 56 RCS airports, 37 number of RCS airports are
unserved airports and commercial operations have started, for the first time in these
airports. Apart from Raipur airport, where scheduled commercial flights are
in operation, such flights have commenced under UDAN from Jagdalpur and
Bilaspur airports in Chhattisgarh.

(c) & (d): After repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian
domestic aviation market was deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct
capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they
wish to service and operate across the country subject to compliance with the Route
Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs). 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 RDG. However, the Ministry regularly interacts with the
stakeholders from time to time with an aim to improve air connectivity. Raipur
airport is a licensed airport with scheduled commercial operations of flights. Under
UDAN, Raipur is connected with Prayagraj, Jagdalpur and Jharsuguda.