

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2349
(To be answered on the 13th March 2025)**

EXPANSION OF JHARSUGUDA AIRPORT

2349. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is considering the expansion of Jharsuguda Airport with a view to catering the growing demand of air travel and its strategic importance as a business hub in the region and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to introduce daily flights from Jharsuguda Airport to major metro cities such as Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam in order to boost connectivity and regional development and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government would consider scheduling two daily flights to Delhi and Bhubaneswar from the said airport due to its significance for trade and commerce and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has proposed any timeline and allocated funds for the infrastructure development and operational expansion of the said airport to meet future air traffic demands and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): Jharsuguda Airport is an operational airport, owned by Airports Authority of India (AAI), suitable for operations of Code 4C type of aircraft. The upgradation of infrastructure at airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other Airport Operators from time to time depending on the passenger demand forecast, operational requirements for safety of aircraft operations and demand from airlines. Development works are taken up in a phased manner, subject to the availability of land, financial viability, and operational needs related to intended aircraft operations.

At present, Jharsuguda Airport is connected with Bengaluru, Mumbai,

Kolkata, Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Shamshabad, Lucknow and Raipur. With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate subject to the compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) issued by the Government and flight schedules approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Hence, it is upto the airline operators to introduce air services to / from any airport in the country depending on their operational & commercial viability.
