

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 5383
(To be answered on the 3rd April 2025)**

**INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FROM RAJA BHOJ AIRPORT AND
CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORT AT SINGRAULI**

**5383. DR. RAJESH MISHRA
SHRI ALOK SHARMA**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start international flights from Raja Bhoj airport in Bhopal, particularly to Dubai and Singapore;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to construct a commercial airport at Singrauli; and**
- (d) 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) & (b): The international operations of airlines are governed by the bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective country. In accordance with ASA, Indian designated carriers are free to mount operations to/from any point in India to foreign destinations as per mutually agreed capacity limits, while any designated foreign airline can operate to/from a point in India if it is designated as a point of call (PoC) in the ASA.

The start of direct international flights from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of scheduled airlines on the basis of passenger demand, availability of slots, economic viability of the route and other associated factors. The Government does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines.

(c) & (d): Government of India has formulated a Greenfield Airports (GFA)

Policy, 2008 for development of new Greenfield airports in the country through a two stage approval process, i.e. 'Site Clearance' followed by 'In-Principle' approval. Government of India has granted 'Site Clearance' to MD Road Development Corporation Limited for development of a Greenfield Airport in Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh.

Further, Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports for the expansion of air services in small cities and remote areas in the country by making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market-driven ongoing scheme where bidding rounds are conducted from time to time to cover more destinations/ stations and routes.

There is an airstrip at Singrauli, which is available in the list of unserved airports under RCS-UDAN. However, none of the airline bidders has so far submitted the proposal for the operation of RCS flights from Singrauli airstrip.
