

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4444
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th March 2026)

UNDERUTILISED AIRPORTS IN MAHARASHTRA

4444. DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that several airports in Maharashtra have remained under limited use for years without regular civil flight operations and if so, the details and present operational status thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of these airports leased out, the duration of such leases along with the terms and conditions thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is also aware that no regular civil services have commenced from certain leased airports and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether any steps are being taken to bring such airports back under Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) or Maharashtra Airport Development Company (MADC) for full operationalisation and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Currently, there are 16 operational airports in the State of Maharashtra. Limited or temporary suspension of operations at certain airports may arise due to factors such as daytime runway restrictions at airports restricted to Visual Flight Rules (VFR), poor visibility conditions, aircraft availability, leasing arrangements, temporary withdrawal by airlines, route rationalisation, or low passenger load factors.

Further, following the repeal of the Air Corporations Act in March 1994, the domestic aviation sector was deregulated, enabling airlines to independently plan, operate, and select the networks they wish to serve. Consequently, the commencement, continuation, or suspension of air services at any airport is at the discretion of the airlines.

(b) & (c): Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai, Maharashtra, belonging to the Airports Authority of India (AAI), has been leased to a private entity, namely Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL), and is a fully operational airport with regular civil flight operations.

(d): Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Airport, Nanded, was handed over to Maharashtra Airport Development Company Limited (MADC) on 23rd June 2025 and is currently being operated by MADC Ltd. However, at present, there is no proposal under consideration to bring any airport in Maharashtra under the aegis of the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) or Maharashtra Airport Development Company (MADC) for operationalization.
