

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 6384
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd April 2026)

EXPANSION OF AIR CONNECTIVITY IN CHHATTISGARH

6384. SMT JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the allocation of Rupees Eighty Crore investment in the Chhattisgarh Budget 2026 for the development of Jagdalpur, Bilaspur and Ambikapur airports and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the current status of commercial flight operationalization for Ambikapur airport under the UDAN scheme along with the reasons for technical delays, if any;
- (c) the number of new regional routes connecting Raipur and Bilaspur to major metro cities of the country proposed for the 2026-27 bidding rounds; and
- (d) whether there is any plan to upgrade the terminal capacity and night-landing facilities at Jagdalpur airport to support increased tourist inflow and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) : The Government of Chhattisgarh, in its Budget 2026-27, has made a provision of Rs. 80 crore for the infrastructure development of airports at Jagdalpur, Bilaspur and Ambikapur.

(b) : Ambikapur Airport, Chhattisgarh, owned by the State Government of Chhattisgarh, was identified under UDAN for development and operation of RCS flights. The airport has been developed at a cost of Rs.80.32 crore and was licensed for 3C VFR operations on 15.03.2024. FlyBig commenced RCS flights on the Ambikapur-Bilaspur-Ambikapur and Ambikapur - Raipur- Ambikapur routes using 19-seater aircraft, awarded under UDAN, with operations commencing on 19.12.2024.

The airline discontinued the operations due to aircraft issues from 15.06.2025.

On 22.09.2025, Flybig assigned and novated its contractual rights and obligations wef 10.10 25 under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) to the new entrant airline Skyhop Aviation Private Limited. Skyhop Aviation Private Limited is in the process of fulfilling regulatory and operational requirements.

(c) : None of the airline bidders have submitted proposals to operate RCS flights from Bilaspur and Raipur airstrip till the completion of five rounds of bidding under the UDAN scheme.

(d) : Jagdalpur airport has been developed with a CAPEX of Rs. 60.16 Crores under the UDAN cheme. Night Landing at Jagdalpur Airport is not feasible due to space constraints.
