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Title: Regarding request to start direct Flights from Bhubaneswar to Dehradun and Shirdi

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (BEHRAMPUR): Sir, I would like to raise an issue regarding direct flights from Bhubaneswar to Dehradun and Shirdi Airport.

Odisha has a longstanding relationship with Uttarakhand as many pilgrims of these two States frequently visit both the places. Many devotees and tourists from Uttarakhand visit places like Lord Jagannath Temple at Puri, Konark, Chilika Lake near Bhubaneswar, Lingaraj Temple and similarly, many people of Odisha go on Char Dham Yatra, i.e. Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath, and also other hill stations of Uttarakhand. Shirdi is also known as Sainagar in Maharashtra. It is a place of importance and is also counted among the major pilgrimages. Annually, thousands of devotees from Odisha visit Sainagar. There is no direct air connectivity from Bhubaneswar to Dehradun and Shirdi Airport. The devotees have to travel by train or road. If they travel by air, they first have to go to Delhi for Dehradun and Mumbai for Shirdi which is costlier as well as time consuming for them.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to consider starting direct flights from Bhubaneswar to Dehradun and Shirdi which will help the devotees and tourists.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri B. Manickam Tagore – Not present.

Shri Ajay Nishad.