

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1805
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
AIR SERVICE FROM BODHGAYA
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has a proposal to connect Bhubaneswar with Varanasi via Bodhgaya through air link;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the above proposal would be considered?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): As per National Aviation Company of India Limited, the present traffic potential between Bhubaneswar and Varanasi does not warrant introduction of flights on the sector. Further, the Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country, including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.