

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to start direct air service between Bhubaneswar and Pune.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): Thank you, Speaker Madam. I would like to request you to bring the House to order. ... (*Interruptions*)

We have got one airport for every 70 lakh to 80 lakh population in our country. That is the situation in most parts of the country whereas in Odisha we have just one airport for our 4.2 crore people; the second one is in the pipeline. ... (*Interruptions*)

I have demanded on the floor of the House for the revival of the Rasgobindpur airport, which has been lying abandoned from World War-II. The Biju Patnaik airport in Odisha has registered the highest ever traffic growth of 39.4 per cent in 2017-18 vis-à-vis the comparative figure of the previous year. ... (*Interruptions*)

Our hon. Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik has written to the Civil Aviation Minister for a direct flight between Pune and Bhubaneswar. These are the two cities in the western part and eastern part of our country which are growing phenomenally in IT, education, etc. ... (*Interruptions*) It takes six to seven hours to go from Bhubaneswar to Pune. We can reach London in six hours but it takes six or seven hours to reach Pune! ... (*Interruptions*)

I would urge upon the Union Government for consideration of these two demands. There should be a direct flight immediately operated between Bhubaneswar and Pune. ... (*Interruptions*) There should also be revival of Rasgobindpur airport, which must happen immediately. Thank you. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER:

Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel,

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and

Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena. ...
(Interruptions)

12 19 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Gaurav Gogoi went back to his seat.)