

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3848
(To be answered on the 3rd January 2019)**

FLIGHT FOR TOURISTS IN KANHA AND PENCH NATIONAL PARKS

3848. SHRI BODHSINGH BHAGAT

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has any action plan for starting domestic flights from Gondia Birsi National Flying Training Institute Airport for the tourists of Kanha and PENCH National Parks; and
(b) if so, the time by which the domestic flights are likely to be started and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) & (b): Birsi airport is an operational airport of Airports Authority of India. However, with repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian airline industry was deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. Further, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better air transport services of different regions of the country. It is therefore, 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 Government. The Gondia Airport figures as Unserved airport under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN version 3 and in case, any bid is received in UDAN version 3, the same will be considered for award as per provision of RCS-UDAN.
