GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 820 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th December 2025)

DISRUPTION OF AIR SERVICES IN HIMACHAL PRADESH DUE TO EXPIRY OF CONTRACTS

820. SHRI HARSH MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is aware that air services under the (UDAN) Scheme in the State of Himachal Pradesh, particularly on the Delhi-Shimla and Delhi-Dharamshala routes, have been disrupted due to expiry of airline contracts; (b) if so, the number of such routes in the State where flight operations have been discontinued and the steps being taken for their restoration;
- (c) whether Government proposes to invite new operators or renew contracts in the near future; and
- (d) the estimated timeline for implementing these measures?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme -Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) Viability Gap Funding (VGF) is provided for a three years period. Alliance Air operated the Delhi-Shimla route and discontinued the service after completing the three-year period. The Delhi-Dharamshala-Delhi route is commercially operational.

Further, the Shimla -Amritsar route operated by Alliance Air has been discontinued on 16.10.2025 due to aircraft grounding.

The Government regularly monitors the routes that have ceased operations under UDAN and conducts special bidding rounds to operationalise eligible routes.

The Government has announced the launch of Modified UDAN Scheme to enhance regional connectivity to 120 new destinations and carry 4 crore passengers in the next 10 years. The Scheme will also support helipads and small airports in Hilly, Island, North Eastern and aspirational districts.
