

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 811

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July 2026

MEASURES TO ENSURE AFFORDABLE AIR CONNECTIVITY

811. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

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

(a) whether Government is considering policy measures to maintain reasonable airfare levels to promote wider accessibility of air travel for the general public specially in the State of Punjab;

(b) the role of schemes such as UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) in ensuring affordable regional air connectivity; and

(c) whether Government proposes to expand affordable air travel options and regulate fare spikes on high-demand domestic and international routes?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): Airfares are not subject to regulation by the Government and every air transport undertaking establishes a tariff having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of service, reasonable profit, while adhering to Rule 135 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

Government through Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) provides connectivity to un-served and underserved airports of the country through revival of existing air strips and airports, which in turn also promotes tourism, increase employment opportunities and regional growth across the country.

With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was totally deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate with the compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) issued by Government, slot allocated by airport operator and further approval from DGCA. Hence, it is up to the airlines operator to consider the introduction of air services to/from any airport in the country depending upon their operational and commercial viabilities.
