

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2658
(To be answered on the 16th March 2023)**

AIR CONNECTIVITY TO NANDED SAHIB

2658. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Takhat Sachkhand Sri Hazur Sahib, Nanded is a highly revered place of Sikhs and that lakhs of people travel every year to Nanded to pay their obeisance from all over the world;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to restart direct flights from Chandigarh or Amritsar to Nanded Sahib which were stopped due to COVID pandemic, keeping in mind the demands of Sikhs from Punjab; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c): 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(RDGs) issued by Government. Hence, it is up to the airline operator for introduction of air services to / from any airport in country depending on their operational & commercial viability. Ministry of Civil Aviation regularly interacts with the airlines to promote air connectivity. Ministry of Civil Aviation continues to interact with the airlines to promote air connectivity in the country.

Besides the above, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity across the country from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN.

UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. If any valid bid is received in future round of UDAN for connecting airports / airstrips including Nanded of Maharashtra, same shall be considered as

per the provisions of the scheme document.
