

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3137  
(To be answered on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022)**

**DELHI-BHATINDA FLIGHT**

**3137. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government propose to restore flight services from Delhi-Bhatinda by Alliance Air and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;  
(b) whether the Government is aware that these flights were discontinued due to Covid and post Covid, while most of the flights are restored whereas Delhi-Bhatinda operations are still pending; and  
(c) whether the Government is aware that Delhi-Bhatinda flight is commercially viable and was carrying appreciable passenger load and if so, the reasons for the flight not operating till date?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

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

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(a) to (c): M/s Alliance Air was awarded Delhi-Bathinda-Delhi sector under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) for operation of UDAN Flights. The Airline had operated on the said sector under UDAN from 11th December 2017 till 24th March 2020. Alliance Air also operated additional commercial flights along with the flights operated under UDAN Scheme on the said route to develop the market and enhance the load on the sector. However, these commercial flights could not meet their cost of operations and Alliance Air did not reinstate Delhi-Bathinda-Delhi flights on account of expiry of the exclusivity period of three years under UDAN and non viability of flight operations on the said route.

After repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate with compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to/from any airport in country depending on their operational and commercial viabilities.

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