GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 3053

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th December 2025)

COMMENCEMENT OF FLIGHTS FROM HALWARA AIRPORT

3053. SHRI AMRINDER SINGH RAJA WARRING DR. AMAR SINGH

DR. RAJ KUMAR CHABBEWAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the commencement of civilian flight operations from Halwara Airport in Ludhiana has been long pending despite substantial completion of infrastructure work and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in operationalising the airport including issues related to clearances, airline participation, runway and terminal readiness or coordination with the Indian Air Force;
- (c) the current status of the project under the Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN and the revised timelines fixed for commencement of commercial, domestic and international flights;
- (d) whether any airlines have submitted proposals or shown interest in operating from Halwara Airport and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to expedite the operationalisation of the airport to improve regional connectivity and provide air travel access to the residents and industries of Ludhiana and adjoining districts

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Halwara Airport is being developed through a joint venture between the State Government of Punjab and the Airports Authority of India. The development work at the airport has been completed.

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Under the UDAN 4.2 round of bidding, the RCS route connecting Ludhiana and Hindon was commenced by M/s Flybig. M/s Flybig has novated its RCS rights and obligations to M/s Skyhop Aviation Pvt. Ltd. for the continued operation of RCS routes connecting Halwara (instead of Ludhiana). M/s Skyhop is currently fulfilling regulatory and operational requirements, including obtaining an Air Operator Certificate and acquiring aircraft. RCS flights are expected to commence once these prerequisites are met.

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With the repeal of the Air Corporations Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation 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.
