

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 14
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21st July 2025)**

**REGIONAL AIR SERVICES AND CONNECTIVITY IN THE STATE OF
PUNJAB**

14. **SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH**

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce or enhance regional air services under schemes like UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) to provide affordable flights for smaller cities and towns in the State of Punjab; and
(b) the future prospects for enhancing air connectivity to rural and remote areas in the State of Punjab through regional aviation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): The Ministry of Civil Aviation is actively working towards enhancing regional air connectivity under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN). The objective of the UDAN scheme is to make air travel affordable and accessible to citizens in smaller towns and cities by providing connectivity to unserved and underserved airports across the country including Punjab. Under various rounds of UDAN, 34 RCS Routes have been operationalised connecting Adampur, Ludhiana, Pathankot and Bathinda in the State of Punjab.

(b): Beas and Patiala airstrips in Punjab are available in the RCS Scheme document for bidding. If any airline submits valid bids for connecting these airstrips in future rounds of UDAN, the same will be considered as per the Scheme provisions. The Government has recently announced the modified UDAN Scheme to increase regional connectivity to 120 new destinations and to cater 4 crore passengers in the next 10 years.
