

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 17
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th December 2023)

**CURRENT STATUS OF BILASPUR-INDORE-BILASPUR AND
BILASPUR-BHOPAL-BILASPUR AIR SERVICES**

17. SMT PHULO DEVI NETAM

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bilaspur-Indore-Bilaspur and Bilaspur-Bhopal-Bilaspur airlines have been discontinued;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when the air service on the said route would resume and the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) to (c): During UDAN 4.0 round of bidding, a network, involving RCS routes connecting Bilaspur to Bhopal, Prayagraj and Jabalpur were awarded to Alliance Air with ATR-72 type of aircraft. Alliance air commenced the RCS routes Bilaspur to Prayagraj and Jabalpur on 01.03.2021 and Bilaspur to Bhopal on 05.06.22. Alliance Air discontinued the operations from Bilaspur to Bhopal on 26.09.22 due to low Passenger Load Factor and the same has been terminated on 24.08.23 with forfeiture of Performance Bank Guarantee amounting to Rs. 5,88,380/-. RCS flights from Bilaspur to Prayagraj and Jabalpur are in operation at present.

As per the norms of the UDAN Scheme, Bilaspur is a served airport and hence was not included in the list of underserved Airports for bidding under UDAN 5.0. Any airline can, however, operate commercial flights on the routes, except the exclusive routes awarded under UDAN, based on their assessment of the traffic and commercial viability.
