**Amritsar and Mohali international airports should be granted Point of Call (PoCs) under Air Services Agreement by the Ministry of civil aviation: Vikramjit Singh MP Rajyasabha**

Vikramjit Singh pitches for direct flights from Canada to Punjab, writes a letter to civil aviation minister GOI

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Amid Agreement announcement made by India and Canada in G20 Summit yesterday which will allow an unlimited number of flights between India and Canada. Member of Parliament from Rajya Sabha, Mr. Vikramjit Singh welcomed this announcement and wrote a letter requesting Civil Aviation Minister to commence direct flights from Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal to Amritsar and Mohali Airport.┬а

Mr. Singh stated that he hopes that on this occasion of this historical announcement of unlimited flights between India and Canada. Ministry of Civil Aviation will immediately pursue this issue of granting Point of Call (PoCs) to Amritsar and Mohali Airport under Air Services Agreement and we will get direct flights from Punjab to Canada to avoid inconvenience to a lot of passengers who travel to Delhi in order to take flights for Canada.

Mr. Vikramjit said that, Operations of foreign airlines are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and respective country. Any foreign airline can operate can operate to/from a point (airport) in India if it is designated as a point of call in the ASA. It may be noted that Punjab have two International Airports in Amritsar and Mohali respectively but neither of two have granted as point of call (PoCs) to carriers of Canada.

Mr. Sahney also said that as per the 2021 Canadian Census, Punjabi Canadians number approximately 950,000 and account for roughly 2.6% of Canada's population. The cultural and business ties between Punjab and Canada is well known to the world. It is also adding to the revenue loss which Punjab and India is facing because of it. Punjab being a strategic industrial hub and food bowl of India, Industries in Punjab have a very good network in Canada and these industries can export many goods for several industries, specially the Agri processing Industry through Cargo flights once the direct flights from Punjab to Canada begins.

