

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
Rajya Sabha**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. : 6**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th December 2023**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF RDGS**

**6. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY**

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

- (a) whether Government has laid down the Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) to achieve more connectivity as on date;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of the airports which are connected according to the proposed RDGs; and**
- (d) whether Puducherry airport would also be considered for the same?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Jyotiraditya M&#46; Scindia)**

**(a) to (d) : A STATEMENT IS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.**

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**Statement referred in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 6 regarding "Implementation of RDGs" to be answered on 04.12.2023.**

**(a) & (b) : Yes Sir, to achieve better connectivity of air transport services for different regions in the country, the Government of India issued the revised Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) on 25.07.2017. Routes have been classified into categories namely Category- I, II, II-A and III under RDG. The criteria for routes classified under Category- I,**

**are a flying distance of more than 700 km, average seat factor of more than 70% and annual traffic of 5 lakh passengers over two full schedules i.e. summer and winter schedule.**

**There are twenty routes connecting cities directly under Category-I, as given in Annexure.**

**Routes connecting stations in North-Eastern Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands are classified as Category-II. All scheduled operators are required to deploy at least 10% in Category-II routes of their deployed capacity on Category-I routes.**

**Routes within the North-Eastern Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands and Cochin-Agatti-Cochin are classified as Category- IIA. All operator(s) are required to deploy at least 1% in Category- IIA routes of the capacity, deployed on Category- I routes.**

**Routes other than those mentioned in Category- I, II and II-A are classified as Category-III. All operator(s) are required to deploy at least 35% in Category- III routes of the capacity deployed on Category- I routes.**

**(c) & (d): As per the Winter Schedule 2023, 118 cities of the country are connected by Scheduled Domestic Airlines as per RDGs, including Puducherry Airport. Puducherry is connected to Hyderabad and Bengaluru by M/s SpiceJet.**

## ANNEXURE

Routes connecting cities directly under Category-I of the RDG are as under:

1. Mumbai-Delhi;
2. Delhi-Bangalore;
3. Mumbai-Chennai;
4. Hyderabad-Delhi;
5. Bangalore-Kolkata;
6. Bangalore-Pune;
7. Delhi-Patna;
8. Mumbai-Cochin;
9. Mumbai-Chandigarh;
10. Mumbai-Lucknow;
11. Bangalore-Mumbai;
12. Delhi-Kolkata;
13. Delhi-Chennai;
14. Mumbai-Kolkata;
15. Chennai-Kolkata;
16. Ahmedabad-Delhi;
17. Mumbai-Jaipur;
18. Delhi-Pune;
19. Delhi-Goa;
20. Chennai-Pune;