

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3732
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23rd March 2023)**

IMPLEMENTATION OF SOP

3732. DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to implement the Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) or lay down any guidelines for route dispersal for all private airlines in all airports across the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with reasons for implementing the SOP or laid down guidelines;**
- (c) the names of such airports which were connected with the SOP or proposed laid down guidelines for route dispersal; and**
- (d) the total number of private airlines that are presently operating flight service across the country, airline-wise?**

ANSWER

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR)
V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

(a) to (c): 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.;

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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.

(d): As per the approved Winter schedule 2022, there are 08 scheduled domestic airlines and 03 scheduled commuter airlines operating to/from airports across the country.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3732 FOR

ANSWER ON 23.03.2023

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;