

next three years is to be "demand driven", depending on firm commitment from airline operators and where the State Government concerned agrees to provide various concessions envisaged in the Policy.

**Guidelines of connecting small cities with air service network**

1687. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating to operate flights to even small cities also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the other guidelines issued by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) As per Summer Schedule (SS) -2016, scheduled domestic flights are available to/from 77 airports of the country, which includes small cities of the country also. State-wise air connectivity as per SS-2016 is given in Statement (*See below*).

With repeal of Air Corporation act in March, 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was deregulated. Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better connectivity of air transport services of different regions of the country. It is however up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

**Statement**

*State-wise Air Connectivity - Summer Schedule 2016*

Sl. No.	State	Names of Cities Air linked	No. of Airports
1	2	3	4
States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajamundry, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Vizag, Cuddapah	5

1	2	3	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	
3.	Assam	Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Silchar, Tezpur	6
4.	Bihar	Gaya, Patna	2
5.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	1
6.	Delhi	Delhi	1
7.	Goa	Goa	1
8.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara	6
9.	Haryana	-	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala, Kullu	2
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Leh, Srinagar, Thoise	4
12.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	1
13.	Karnataka	Bangalore, Belgaum, Mangalore, Hubli	4
14.	Kerala	Calicut, Cochin, Trivandrum	3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Khajuraho	5
16.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune	4
17.	Manipur	Imphal	1
18.	Meghalaya	Shillong	1
19.	Mizoram	Aizwal	1
20.	Nagaland	Dimapur	1
21.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	1
22.	Punjab	Amritsar	1
23.	Rajasthan	Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur	3
24.	Sikkim	-	
25.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Tuticorin	5
26.	Telangana	Hyderabad	1
27.	Tripura	Agartala	1

1	2	3	4
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Lucknow, Varanasi	5
29.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun, Pant Nagar	2
30.	West Bengal	Bagdogra, Kolkata, Durgapur	3
Union Territories			
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair, Car Nicobar	2
2.	Lakshadweep Islands	Agatti	1
3.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	
5.	Daman and Diu	Diu	1
6.	Puducherry	Puducherry	1
Number of cities connected by Scheduled domestic carriers			77

**Fulfillment of mandate of civil aviation licensing  
policy by private airlines**

1688. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the licensing policy for civil aviation mandates that private airlines must operate flights to uneconomical destinations as well;

(b) if so, whether private airline companies have fulfilled this mandate in practice;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether losses incurred by the National carrier Air India since 2014 have been higher on uneconomical routes than lucrative sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) issued by Government specifies that all scheduled operators are required to deploy North Eastern region, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (Category-II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk routes (Category-I routes). Further, at least 10% of