

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2350  
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012  
SMALL AIRLINES FOR SMALL CITIES  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

(a) whether the Government is encouraging and running 50 to 60 seater capacity of small aircraft from small cities particularly from Hyderabad to Vijayawada, Vijayawada to Tirupati, Tirupati to Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada to Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the details and the present position thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a)and(b): Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued CAR on minimum requirement for grant of permit to operate scheduled air transport passenger services/regional services. The said CAR lays down minimum number of aircraft in fleet of airlines to operate such services. It does not specify seating capacity. Selection of particular type of the aircraft with seating capacity is a commercial decision of the airlines and the Ministry does not interfere in commercial matters of the airlines.

At present, scheduled air services are available on Hyderabad-Vijayawada route by Air India, Jet Airways and Spicejet. However, no scheduled airline is operating on Vijayawada-Tirupati, Tirupati-Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam routes.

Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines.