

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1567
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
CONNECTIVITY TO NON COMMERCIAL DESTINATIONS
Adhi Sankar Shri ;Banerjee Shri Ambica;Biju Shri P. K.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has scrapped/proposes to scrap the existing rule that makes it mandatory for domestic airlines to deploy a certain capacity on nonviable/non-commercial routes and proposes to set up a subsidy fund to subsidize airlines to fly on unprofitable routes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on airfares along with the other steps taken to make regional air connectivity viable;
- (c) whether the loss making routes are comparatively less than the profit making routes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to balance the loss making routes with the profit making routes?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) and (b): No proposal to scrap the Route Dispersal Guidelines is under consideration of the Ministry at present. A proposal for creation of Essential Air Services Fund to subsidize airlines to fly on unprofitable routes has been included in 12th Five Year Plan proposal.

(c) to (e): Operatins in domestic sector have been deregulated. As such, air lines are free to operate anywhere in the country subjects to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines. The Ministry does not maintain profit/loss of airlilnes, route-wise.