

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2599
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014
AIR SERVICES TO REMOTE AREAS
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Sardinha Shri Francisco

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the tier-II and tier-III cities and the remote areas of the country are connected with air services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reason thereof and the steps proposed to be taken thereon, Statewise;
- (d) whether a number of political organizations and public representatives have requested the Union Government to construct airports in the States during the last three years and till date and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage domestic airlines to operate flights to remote/ interior areas of the country?

Answer

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

- (a) to (c); At present, Scheduled carriers are operating flights to/ from 73 airports in India, which include smaller cities also.;
- (d): Yes, Madam. Various references have been received from political organizations and public representatives in the last three years and till date for construction of greenfield airports at various places which include places like Alwar (Rajasthan), Rohtak, Hissar, Karnal, and Sagar (Haryana), Adilabad and Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh), Bijapur, Bellary and Hassan (Karnataka), Dindigul and Swamy Thope in Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu), Utkela (Orissa).
- (e): Govt. of India has approved Greenfield Airport Policy, 2008. State Government or any Airport Company are required to submit application for setting up of Greenfield airport in the prescribed proforma. Subsequently, the proposals are considered in consultation with AAI/Directorate General of Civil Aviation and other nodal Ministries/Departments on case to case basis.
- (f):Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for 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.