

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3363  
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2005  
GUIDELINES FOR LOW COST AIRLINES COMPANIES  
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines and entry norms for commencing air operations by No Frill Airlines companies/low cost airlines companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Private low cost airline operations given licences to start air operations;
- (d) the details of air-sectors where the private airlines have been permitted to start their operations;
- (e) whether low cost private airlines have been mandated to operate compulsory air service in remote & hilly areas particularly North-East and other backward regions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL )

(a) and (b) :- No, Sir. There are no separate guidelines for No Frill airlines companies/low cost airline companies.

(c):- Airlines offer concessional fares on commercial judgements.

(d),(e) and (f):- Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) 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. As per Route Dispersal Guidelines all the operators are required to deploy in Category II (i.e. routes to/from/in North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep) at least 10% of the capacity deployed by them on routes in Category I (i.e. trunk routes) and of the capacity thus required to be deployed on Category II routes, at least 10% would be deployed on services or segments thereof operated exclusively within the North-Eastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep. The operator is also required to deploy in Category III,(i.e. non-trunk routes) at least 50% of the capacity deployed on routes in Category I.

The airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of the Route Dispersal Guidelines laid down by the Government.