

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1855  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2006  
AIR SERVICES BETWEEN GUWAHATI AND LILABARI .  
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

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

- (a) whether the flight between Guwahati and Lilabari of the Alliance Air has been continuously irregular since November, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to entrust this sector to private airlines to operate their services;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure regular and timely air services on this sector?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): During the period from November, 2005 to July,2006, against scheduled 78 flights, Alliance Air operated only 27 flights between Guwahati and Lilabari due to severe crew constraints.

(c) and (d): 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 including North-East region. As such, airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability and further subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines.

(e): Alliance Air has drawn up a revised schedule effective 10th July, 2006 which has led to an improvement in regularity and reliability of ATR services. With the introduction of the revised schedule, a same day connection via Guwahati is available for Delhi-Lilabari passengers on two days of the week and for passengers from Lilabari-Delhi via Guwahati and Kolkata also on two days of the week. Alliance Air has also taken steps to induct expatriate pilots for the ATR fleet in order to supplement its existing crew strength and increase operations.