

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1421
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
CIVIL AVIATION FACILITIES IN NE STATES
Rijju Shri Kiren

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase the air connectivity within the North East States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to construct/upgrade the airports in the NE States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of each project; and
- (e) the total fund allocation for the civil aviation sector in North East States during the last three years and current year?

Answer

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

(a) and (b):- At present, scheduled airlines like Indian Airlines, Alliance Air, Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines, Air Deccan, Kingfisher Airlines, Spicejet and IndiGo Airlines are operating 226 services/week to/from and within North East States. These airlines operate services to/from Agartala, Aizwal, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Guwahati, Imphal, Jorhat, Lilabari, Shillong, Silchar and Tezpur in the North-East Region. Pawan Hans Helicopter Ltd. has provided helicopters on long-term wet lease to Government of Meghalaya, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura, which are operating to remote parts in these states.

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. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

(c) and (d) :- Yes Sir. The following major works at airports in the North-East States are under various stages of construction:

- (i) Expansion and strengthening of apron and construction of two new link taxiway at Agartala in Tripura.
- (ii) Construction of new terminal building complex for 500 passengers, car park etc. at Dibrugarh in Assam.
- (iii) Expansion of existing apron and construction of new apron at Dibrugarh in Assam.
- (iv) Extension of runway by 360m, construction of new apron with link taxiway & trans installation of localizer at Guwahati in Assam.
- (v) Extension of runway, strengthening of existing runway, extension of apron, link taxiway, isolation bay etc. at Silchar in Assam.

There are also proposals for construction of Greenfield airport at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Cheithu (Kohima) in Nagaland and Pekiyoung in Sikkim.

(e):- Total fund allocation of the Civil Aviation Sector for the NER is as follows:

(Rs. Crores)

2003-04	52.25
2004-05	40.21
2005-06	30.44

