

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1215
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
LEASE AN AIRCRAFT TO FLY LETTERS, PARCELS ETC.
Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take an aircraft on lease to fly letters, parcels and cargo; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the investment proposed to be made and revenues expected to be earned therefrom?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Posts has been facing an acute problem with respect to conveyance of mail in the North-Eastern Region in the absence of a reliable rail/air network. It has, therefore, been proposed to wet lease a freighter aircraft from Indian Airlines for conveyance of mail in the North-East Region. In addition to an initial one time expenditure of Rs., 12 crores, approximately Rs. 36 crores will be incurred on this account per year. The prime objective of this proposal is to provide to the North East region quality of service at par with that rendered by Department of Posts in the rest of the country. It is also expected to generate additional revenue in terms of increased mail volumes.