

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1329  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014  
DIRECT FLIGHTS  
Sarmah Shri Ram Prasad

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

- (a) the details of the proposals received by the Government for starting direct flights across the country and to international destinations during the last three years and the current year along with the action taken thereon;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to start direct flight from Delhi to Tezpur Airport in Assam for the convenience of passengers who are forced to travel via Kolkata due to absence of direct flight; and
- (c) if so, the details and present status thereof along with the time by which operations of the direct flights are likely to begin?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr.Mahesh Sharma)

(a) Before commencement of summer and winter season, for domestic air service operation, all the scheduled airlines submit their proposal for slot allocation depending upon commercial/ operational viability of operations. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in co-ordination with the airport operator approves the schedule twice a year, namely summer schedule & winter schedule. Once the schedule is approved, the same is uploaded on DGCA website. Presently the winter schedule 2014 is going on and the details of winter schedule for the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure 1. Grant of traffic rights on international sector is an ongoing process and the same are granted to eligible scheduled carriers depending upon availability of traffic rights under bilateral agreements.

(b) & (c) As per approved Winter 2014 schedule, Alliance Air is operating three flights per week on Kolkata - Silchar - Tezpur sector. 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. As such the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of RDGs issued by the Government.