

Title: Need to re-introduce Airbus A-320 between Agartala and Kolkata. – Laid.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA WEST) : I would like to highlight the problems being faced by people of Tripura with regard to air journey from Agartala to Kolkata. Tripura is located at the tail end of North East Region and is completely land locked. Since there is no other reliable and fast means of communications, even the poorest people of the State are compelled to travel by air to Kolkata and to other destinations. This is particularly true for those who have to travel outside the region for medical care and higher education. Now there is an ATR in the morning. This flight is smaller and cannot accommodate stretcher patients. The luggage permissible is also only 15 kgs. per passenger. These flights even do not carry all Indian newspapers and daily mails. These things reach Agartala by other flights in the evening. Earlier there were 9 (nine) A-320 and five Boeing 737 flights in a week. During the monsoon flights from and to Agartala are frequently delayed/cancelled.

Keeping in view the above position, it is strongly demanded for introduction of Airbus A-320 in the morning in place of ATR and rescheduling of other flights in the afternoon during monsoon at the earliest.