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Title: Need to start operation of flights from Cooch Behar Airport in West Bengal.

SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY (COOCH BEHAR): I want to bring the attention of this august House that in my Constituency Cooch Behar, West Bengal, there is a full fledged Airport with all infrastructure facilities. Till 1995 this Airport was in use but after that suddenly flight facility was stopped. In the last so many years Hon'ble Members of Parliament of North Bengal are continuously requesting to start flight operations from Cooch Behar Airport but even after spending crores of rupees in the last 3-4 years this Airport has not been made operational. Here I want to mention you that all the districts of North Bengal are economically backward districts and to boost the economy here it is very necessary that the Cooch Behar Airport should be made operational at the earliest and also this Airport is very important from the point of view of our Defence. Further, I want to mention here that in August - September, 2011, the Airport was made operational for 1 to 2 days, but again it was shut down. I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister to take immediate steps so the Airport at Cooch Behar, West Bengal should be made operational within this year only.

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