

AAI has constructed temporary cargo complex at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.86 lakhs. AAI has also identified a site for the construction of a permanent cargo complex.

**Formed Alliance Air as an Associate Company**

3018. SHRI ISWAR PRASNNA HAZARIKA :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formed Alliance Air as an associate company of Indian Airlines;

(b) whether it is proposed to hand over the entire fleet of Boeing 737 aircrafts for operation by Alliance Air;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether operations of Alliance Air are proposed to be largely concentrated on the North Eastern region;

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to develop a Hub or operational base for Boeing 737s at Guwahati; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Alliance Air is the brand name of airline operated by Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL), a wholly owned subsidiary set up by Indian Airlines Limited in 1983. Alliance Air commenced airline operations w.e.f. 15th of April, 1996.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Alliance Air was set up to increase the utilisation of Boeing 737 aircraft fleet by increased availability of Commanders. Indian Airlines service offered with the Boeing 737 aircraft have been transferred to Alliance Air from the 10th of February, 1997.

(d) No, Sir. Alliance Air operates in all parts of the country including the North Eastern Region.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

**Air Accidents Involving Private Air Services**

3019. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of air accidents involving private air services during the past two years;

(b) the number of casualties suffered in such accidents;

(c) whether these airlines generally are not maintaining the safety norms; and

(d) if so, the action being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) During past two years from 1st March, 1995,

to 28th February, 1997, there have been 5 accidents involving private air services.

(b) 10 persons were killed in these accidents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Steps such as conducting safety audit of operators, monitoring of flight recorders, conducting safety seminars/meetings, carrying out spot checks on ground and in-flight checks, implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, appropriate action against the defaulters, etc. are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety.

**Disparity in Postal Facilities**

3020. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a wide disparity in postal facilities between urban and rural areas and also among States;

(b) if so, the comparison of population covered by the post offices in rural and urban areas as on 1.4.1996, State-wise;

(c) the number of additional rural and urban post offices sanctioned for 1996-97, State-wise;

(d) the estimated population likely to be covered by post offices in rural and urban areas as on 1.4.1997; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in reducing this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Post Offices are opened on norm based justification. There is some disparity in population served per Post Office in urban and rural areas which is due to the density of population in urban areas.

The position of population served per Post Office in urban and rural areas, State-wise is given in the attached Statement.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

*Comparison of Population Covered by the post offices in Rural and Urban Areas as on 1.4.1996 State-Wise*

S.No	Name of the States	Population served per Post Office in urban Areas	Population served per Post in rural Areas
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13009	3275
2.	Assam	8266	5680