

Airlink of Delhi with State Capitals

1941. SHRI AJOY BISWAS:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State capitals in the country are connected with Delhi by air;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof and the names of the State capitals which have not been connected by air with Delhi so far; and

(c) whether it is proposed to connect these capitals with Delhi if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) :
(a) and (b). All the State capitals, except the following are connected to Delhi by air:-

	<i>State</i>	<i>Capitals</i>
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
2	Nagaland	Kohima
3	Sikkim	Gangtok

In the absence of aerodrome at these capitals, Itanagar is served by North Lakhimpur (Lilabari), Kohima by Dimapur and Gangtok by Bagdogra;

(d) Linking of these capitals by air with Delhi will be considered once the airports and other infrastructural facilities are available at these places.

Import of Helicopters

1942 SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:
PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY:
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a report appearing in the 'Indian Express' of 2 February, 1988 under the caption "imported copters for VVIPs land unfit";

(b) if so, the Governments' reaction thereto;

(c) the details of these helicopters and the country from which these were purchased together with the cost thereof and the number of helicopters put into operation;

(d) whether a high cpowered enquiry committee has been set up to find outline details of the defects in the Helicopters together with the reasons for not getting these helicopters examined by the experts before their purchase; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Six SA365N Dauphin 2 helicopters in the executive configuration were purchased from France in a Package deal which also included 21 helicopters for Pawan Hans Ltd. The pro-rate cost of these 6 helicopters and related spares and equipments was FF. 121.64. Of these, only 3 helicopters have so far been handed over by M/s. Aerospatiale after the necessary assembly. Since a decision in regard to the prospective users of these helicopters, earlier intended for Communication Squadron of the Air Force for VIP transportation has not yet been taken, these helicopters are yet to be pressed into services.