

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6615
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010
AIR CONNECTIVITY
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the major areas of various States/Union Territories which have not been connected by air link so far;
- (b) the main reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of airports closed down due to non-viability in States and Union Territory-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to air link these States/Union Territories;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- At present, no air services are available in the States of Haryana, Sikkim and Puducherry. However, Haryana is connected through Chandigarh, which is a State capital and Union Territory. Presently Sikkim is connected through Bagdogra. A Greenfield airport at Pakyong in Sikkim is scheduled to come up in the next two years. Airports of Arunachal Pradesh viz Along, Daparizo, Tezu, Passighat, Ziro have connectivity by helicopter services operated by Pawan Hans. Though, Puducherry has an airport, no scheduled air services is currently being operated.

(c):- Airports Authority of India has not closed down any of its airports due to non-viability in States and Union Territories.

(d) and (e):- The 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 including North-East region. The airlines provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines.