

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3161
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2010
HELICOPTER SERVICES
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ,Singh Shri Ijyaraj

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has introduced helicopter services for visiting religious places located in remote areas and high mountains;
- (b) if so, the places where such services has been introduced;
- (c) if not, the steps taken to provide helicopter services to these places; and
- (d) the success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b):Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL), a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation operates passenger services from Augustmuni to Kedarnath and Badrinath Dham twice in a year (May - June and September - October). PHHL also operates regular passenger services to Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine from Katra. PHHL has also started regular passenger services with effect from 01.07.2010 on Baltal-Panjtarni sector for Amarnath Dham.

(c):Does not arise.

(d):The above services introduced by PHHL have facilitated a large number of pilgrims in carrying out their pilgrimages.