

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2658
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
HELICOPTERS SERVICES IN NE REGION
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether helicopter services has been discontinued in the entire NE region;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to restart such services in the near future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d):- After two accident involving Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited's (PHHL) helicopters in the Arunachal Pradesh in the month of April, 2011 including the one involving the then Chief Minister, operations of PHHL were stopped and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) was asked to conduct an audit of PHHL. DGCA teams carried out the safety audits of PHHL including that of the North Eastern Regions in the month of May, 2011. Based on the action taken report permission was granted on 6/6/2011 by DGCA to PHHL for resumption of its operations in North East Region. PHHL has resumed its services in Sikkim, Tripura and with Oil India Limited.