

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:227
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
AIR CONNECTIVITY IN NE REGION
Ruala Shri C. L.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of air connectivity in the North-Eastern (NE) region, both within and outside the region;
- (b) whether unlike the national carrier, the private airlines are hesitant to operate intra/inter NE region flights;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the details of the airports in the NE region, equipped with Instrument Landing System (ILS); and
- (e) the time by which the remaining airports, including Lengpui Airport in Mizoram are proposed to be provided with ILS?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (e):- A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 227 DATED 17.08.2011 REGARDING AIR CONNECTIVITY IN NE REGION.

(a):- At present, a total of 370 scheduled flights per week are available to/from different airports in the North-Eastern Region as per the details given at Annexure I. In addition, North-East Shuttle, a non-scheduled operator is also operating air services in North-Eastern Region based on demand.

Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. has resumed the services in North - East Region and already started services in the State of Sikkim, Tripura.

(b) & (c):- The following national carriers and the private airlines are operating flights in the North-Eastern Region:-

Air India 60 flights/week

Alliance Air 71 flights/week

Jet Airways 48 flights/week

JetLite 38 flights/week

Kingfisher Airlines 45 flights/week

Spicejet 42 flights/week

Go Air 07 flights/week

IndiGo 59 flights/week

Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence to Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieving 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. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG).

Under the RDG, the operator has to deploy on routes in category-II (which includes North-Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep) at least 10% of the capacity it deploys on routes in category-II routes, at least 10% would be deployed on services or segment thereof operated exclusively within the cat-II region.

(d):- Agartala, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Guwahati, Imphal, Lengpui and Silchar airports in the North East are having the facility of Instrument Landing System (ILS).

(e):- Lengpui airport has ILS facility. At present, Airports Authority of India (AAI) does not have any proposal to install ILS facility at Lilabari and Barapani airport.