

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2514
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012
SEA PLANE
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the proposal for introduction of the Sea Plane for Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) whether on the same lines, the Sea Planes are likely to be introduced for other locations, especially for Union Territory of Lakshadweep; and
- (c) if so, the details of locations identified alongwith the stipulated time by when it is likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.(PHHL) in collaboration with Andaman & Nicobar Administration introduced first sea plane Cessna 208 A in India in January, 2011 initially for 6 months connecting Port Blair- Havlock sector.

As the situations were not favorable due to off season, the Contract with the party selected for providing seaplane services was terminated w.e.f. 13th May, 2011. As on date PHHL does not have seaplane operations in A&N islands.

Presently, one Non-Scheduled operator permit holder M/s. Maritime Energy Heli Air Services Pvt. is operating one seaplane in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(b)&(c) In the year 2008, a Feasibility Study had been done by Indo Canadian Team for introduction of seaplane services in Lakshadweep islands as a Pilot Project. The Report was submitted to the Lakshadweep Administration for their consideration.

The Report recommended feasibility of introduction of seaplane in Lakshadweep islands such as Kavaratti, Minicoy, Bangaram, Andrott islands, subject to availability of required infrastructure facilities by the Lakshadweep Administration.