

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1184
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012
HELICOPTER SERVICES IN NE REGION
Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar; Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the helicopter services are provided in North-East Region including Sikkim and North Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, location wise;
- (c) whether the helicopters being used for ferrying passengers happens to be very old and outdated; and
- (d) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to replace the old helicopters so that the current rate of mishaps can come down?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) In the North East Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. has provided helicopters on long term lease to Govt. of Sikkim & Tripura. The regular passenger services are being run under the aegis of the respective State Govts. In Sikkim the passenger services are being run for connecting Sikkim-Bagdogra-Sikkim and also being utilized for charter services by the State Govt. In Tripura the helicopter services are being utilized for passenger services connecting Agartala, Dharmanagar, Kallashaar etc.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) As per DGCA stipulations the helicopters can be continued in operation provided the helicopters are maintained in accordance with the manufacturers maintenance programme approved by DGCA.