

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6265
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS FROM COCHIN NAVAL AIRPORT
Dias Dr. Charles

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Defence will consider to facilitate commercial operation of some domestic flights from the naval Airport at Willington Island, Cochin, in view of the fact that this airport is close to Cochin city and convenient for many who can easily reach to their destinations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): Commercial operation of civil flights from the Naval Air Station at Willington Island, Kochi is not feasible due to lack of requisite infrastructure as well as restricted usage of the limited runway length and that too in one direction. However, urgent civil flights requiring medical casualty evacuation and / or aircraft in emergency are accommodated as and when required.