

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4651  
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013  
HELICOPTER SERVICE IN NE STATES  
Ahmed Shri Sultan

**Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has framed any civil aviation plan for the North Eastern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to operate helicopter service from Bagdogra Airport to the State capitals of North Eastern State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR)

(a) & (b): Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North Eastern States.

According to these guidelines, all scheduled operators are required to deploy in the North Eastern Region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep (Category-II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk routes (Category-I routes). Further at least 10% of the capacity thus required to be deployed on Category-II routes, is required to be deployed for connectivity exclusively within these regions (Category-II A). However, airlines provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines.

Further, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted initial No Objection Certificate (NOC) to M/s. North East Shuttle to operate scheduled Air Transport (Regional) Services in East/North-East Region.

(c) & (d): Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by airlines concerned on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines.