

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2615
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2014
FLIGHTS IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
Dev Km. Sushmita

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the flights being operated by Alliance Air from Silchar in Assam to other parts of the country at present;
- (b) whether the Alliance Air flights from Silchar to Guwahati, Kolkata and Imphal have been discontinued and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to re-start these flight services and if so, the details and the status thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the air services in the North-Eastern Region?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri G. M. Siddeshwara)

(a): Alliance air (a wholly subsidiary of Air India) was operating following flights to/from Silchar in the North East Region with ATR aircraft upto 31st May, 2014 as under:

Kolkata/Silchar/Kolkata 7 flights per week
Silchar/Imphal/Silchar 3 flights per week
Guwahati/Silchar/Guwahati 4 flights per week

(b): Yes, Madam. Due to withdrawal of Viability Gap Funding by North Eastern Council, the ATR operations in the North East Region were suspended w.e.f. 1st June, 2014.

(c): Yes, Madam. Effective 1st August, 2014 Alliance Air will be resuming following flights in the North East Region with ATR aircraft. The flights are being restored in consultation with the North Eastern Council:

Kolkata/Shillong/Kolkata Six days/week
Kolkata/Guwahati/Lilabari & vice Versa Four days/week
Kolkata/Guwahati/Tezpur & vice versa Three days/week

(d): Government has formulated Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) to improve air connectivity in all parts of the Country including the North Eastern Region. As per RDG, airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to commercial viability.