

**Title:** Need to construct an international airport in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal-Laid.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (JALPAIGURI) : Jalpaiguri town is the Headquarter of Jalpaiguri Division, comprising the entire North Bengal with Sikkim, Bhutan and Nepal in the North and Bangladesh in the South. This District is the gateway to the Northeast with one tea auction centre at Siliguri and the other proposed at Jalpaiguri.

Previously, there were two Airfields in this District at Ambari and Panga but both remain now abandoned over the years. Air traffic to this area is catered to only through the airport at Bagdogra belonging to the Air Force which is not likely to allow civil aviation from this airport due to security reasons.

Therefore, the need for one International Airport is felt intensely, both from the commercial angle and for promotion of tourism.

I request the Government to construct one International Airport in this area (Jalpaiguri).