

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1349
(To be answered on the 3rd March 2016)**

AIR CONNECTIVITY TO NORTH EASTERN REGION

1349. **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO
DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is no air connectivity among the cities of the North-Eastern States in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to start commercial chopper services between the cities of the North-Eastern States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has also consulted the private chopper companies in this regard and if so, the details along with the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost air connectivity between various States of the country?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a): As per approved winter schedule 2015, Scheduled flights from the following cities of the North-Eastern States (NES) are being operated by Scheduled domestic airlines:

Assam	-	Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Silchar, Tezpur
Manipur	-	Imphal
Meghalaya	-	Shillong
Mezoram	-	Aizwal
Nagaland	-	Dimapur
Tripura	-	Agartala

(b) to (d): Various State Governments of NES have taken helicopter on lease from Pawan Hans Ltd. for providing Helicopter Services in the NE Region for connecting places in the States. The details of services operated by Pawan Hans Limited in various sectors under these lease arrangements are at Annexure-I. The respective State Governments are running Helicopter Services for Passengers; under subsidy support from Government of

India.

(e): Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) 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. As such airlines are free to operate anywhere, depending upon their commercial viability, within the domestic routes subject to compliance of RDG issued by the Government.

Annexure-I

State	Base	Sectors Connected/ Utilization
Sikkim	Gangtok	Gangtok-Bagdogra – Gangtok Gangtok – joy ride
Tripura	Agartala	Agartala - Gandachar Gandachar - Kanchanpur Kanchanpur - Agartala Agartala - Kailashahar Kailashahar – Dharmanagar Dharamanager – Agartala
Aunachal Pradesh (use of helicopter of Pawan Hans was suspended by the State Government from September, 2015 in the State of Arunachal Pradesh)	Itanagar	Itanagar - Guwahati Itanagar - Pasighat Itanagar - Guwahati Tawang - Guwahati
Mizoram	Aizawl	Aizwal - Lunglai Lunglai - Saiha Saha – Aizwal Aizwal – Kamalanagar Aizwal – Khawzawl Khawzawl - Champai Aizwal – Hanhthial Aizwal – Kolasib
Meghalaya	Shillong	Guwahati - Shillong Guwahati – Tura
Nagaland	Dimapur	Mokokchung, Tuensang, Zunheboto, Wokha, Kiphire, Phek

In addition, Pawan Hans has provided one Helicopter to Ministry of Home Affairs which is being utilized for providing Connectivity in NE Region, Ex-Guwahati.