

(e) if so, the details of such flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRISHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) On the basis of the techno-economic evaluation report of the Aircraft Evaluation Committee and the recommendations of the Board Sub-Committee, the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its meeting held on 27.3.2002 have approved a proposal for acquisition of 43 aircrafts *i.e.* 19 A-319, 4 A-320 and 20 A-321 aircrafts installed with CFM-56 engines at a net project cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. Fuel efficiency was one of the factors that were taken into consideration in making techno-economic evaluation. The Project Report submitted by Indian Airlines is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) to (e) Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce "no-frills and low tariff flights". However, in response to market requirements, Indian Airlines introduces promotional fares on its domestic network from time to time. The level of fare reduction varies from sector to sector and season to season depending on various market factors. The market factors include seasonality, strength of Indian Airlines versus competitors, supply demand equation etc.

Upgradation of airports in Tripura

2085. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the NEC has decided to operate small aircrafts linking important towns of the North-Eastern region;

(b) if so, the number of services in the region and of these which will be undertaken in near future;

(c) what measures have been taken to upgrade the airports of Kamalpur, Kailasahar, Dharam Nagar and other airports in some sub-divisional towns of Tripura;

(d) whether there is a proposal to extend short services of aircrafts to link more important towns of Tripura; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIFAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal is in planning stage.

(b).to (e) Details of current air services operated by all scheduled operators including private scheduled operators in the North-East region are given in Statement (See below).

Indian Airlines is finalising a proposal to induct four 50 seater ATR 320 aircrafts on dry lease for improved air connectivity to/from and within North-East. As per the proposed plan of operations, the stations being considered to be air-linked by ATR-320 are:

ex Guwahati: Imphal, Agartala, Dimapur, Silchar and Lilabari

ex Kolkata: Agartala* Silchar, Guwahati, Dimapur, Imphal, Shillong and Aizwal.

At present Airports Authority of India has no plan to upgrade the airports of Kamalpur, Kailasahar, Dharam Nagar and other airports in some sub divisional towns of Tripura.

Statement

Operations to North-East region by Scheduled Airlines (current operations)

Airlines	Sector	Frequency (flights/week)
ASSAM		
Dibrugarh		
Sahara Airlines	Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi	7
Indian Airlines	Kolkata-Dibrugarh-Kolkata	4
Jorhat		
Jet Airways	Kolkata-Jorhat-Guwahati-Jorhat-Kolkata	2
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Jorhat-Dimapur-Kolkata	2
Guwahati		
Indian Airlines	Kolkata-Guwahati-Kolkata	7
	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal and return	7
	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Deihi (*)	2
	(Temporarily withdrawn w.e.f. 1.7.2002 to 15.8.2002)	
Alliance Air	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	3
	Deihi-Patna-Bagdogra-Guwahati and return	3

Airlines	Sector	Frequency (flights/week)
	Silchar-Guwahati-Silchar	2
Sahara Airlines	Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi	7
Jet Airways	Deihi-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi	3
	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Delhi	4
	Kolkata-Guwahati-Kolkata	7
	Kolkata - Jorhat- G u wahati- Jo rhat- Kolkata	2
	Kolkata-Guwahati-Imphal-Guwahati-Kolkata	5
Ulabari		
Ni		
Silchar		
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Silchar-Imphal and return	2
	Silchar-Guwahati-Silchar	2
	Kolkata-Silchar-Kolkata	4
Tezpur		
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Tezpur-Dimapur-Kolkata	2
ARUNACHAL PRADESH		
Nil		
MANIPUR		
Imphal		
Indian Airlines	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal and return	2
	Kolkata-Imphal-Kolkata	1
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Silchar-Imphal and return	2
	Kolkata-Aizwal-Imphal and return	3
Jet Airways	Kolkata-Guwahati-Imphal-Guwahati-Kolkata	5
MIZORAM		
Aizwal		
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Aizwal-Imphal and return	3
MEGHALAYA		
Nil		
NAGALAND		
Dimapur		
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Jorhat-Dimapur-Kolkata	2 2
	Kolkata-Tezpur-Dimapur-Kolkata	

Airlines	Sector	Frequency (flights/week)
TRIPURA		
Agartala		
Indian Airlines	Kolkata-Agartala-Kolkata	9
Alliance Air	Kolkata-Agartala-Kolkata	3
	Guwahati-Agartala-Guwahati	3

Investigation in helicopter crash

2086. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the official team investigating the helicopter crash in which former speaker GMC Balayogi was killed, has discovered that the crash was due to the error of pilot; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to ensure proper training of pilots and proper upkeep of helicopters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIRADYESSO NAIK): (a) The Committee of Inquiry investigating the helicopter crash has not yet submitted its report.

(b) Does not arise.

Training of Senior Superintendents (ATC)

2087. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Senior Superintendents (ATC) initially nominated for ADC/Approach Control Course number 11 at CATC, Allahabad and those nominated subsequently *vide* AAI letter dated 2nd July, 2002;

(b) whether it is a fact that Senior Superintendents subsequently nominated for the said course belong to 1998 batch but sent for the course earlier than those belonging to 1996 and 1997 batches; and

(c) if so, what were the circumstances necessitating nomination of Junior Superintendents (ATC) for training?