

(a) whether Government has received a letter from the Chief Minister of Kerala regarding the construction of an Airport at Kannur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A high level team was sent, to visit the site for technical feasibility of the airport. The team has recommended that a runway of length more than 6600 ft cannot be constructed at Kannur. Moreover, Kannur is only 120 kms from Calicut and 135 kms from Mangalore. Under the existing policy, no greenfield airport is to be developed within an aerial distance of 150 Kms of the existing airport.

Introduction of Flights on New Delhi-Guwahati Sector

651. DR(SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not introducing morning and evening flights to and fro Guwahati-New Delhi-Guwahati to connect the North-Eastern States so far;

(b) the steps initiated to improve the air connection to the North-Eastern region; and

(c) whether Government would consider to provide 50% concession to the students of Assam and North-Eastern States as an underdeveloped and backward area?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The existing schedule of operation on Guwahati - Delhi sector is attached as statement (*see below*). Operators are free to operate to any station/on any route depending upon their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route' Dispersal Guidelines, which provide for certain minimum operations in the North East and some other far flung areas.

(c) 50% concession is already being offered by Indian Airlines on its domestic sectors to all students including those studying in Assam and North-Eastern States.

Statement

Flights operated by the Scheduled Operators on Guwahati-Delhi sector.

<i>Operator</i>	<i>Frequency/week</i>	<i>Departure Time</i>
A. DELHI-GUWAHATI		
1. Indian Airlines	1,3,5 (three days)	0845 hrs
2. Indian Airlines	4,7 (two days)	0845 hrs
3. Alliance Air	2,6 (two days)	0715 hrs
4. Sahara Airlines	2,4,6,7 (four days)	0950 hrs
5. Jet Airways	Daily	1010 hrs
B. GUWAHATI-DELHI		
1. Indian Airlines	1,3,5 (three days)	1240 hrs
2. Indian Airlines	4,7 (two days)	1705 hrs
3. Alliance Air	2,6 (two days)	1240 hrs
4. Sahara Airlines	2,4,6,7 (four days)	1515 hrs
5. Jet Airways	1,3,5 (three days)	1255 hrs
6. Jet Airways	2,4,6,7 (four days)	1355 hrs
Legend:		
1. Monday	2. Tuesday	3. Wednesday
4. Thursday	5. Friday	6. Saturday
7. Sunday		

Policy to Promote Aviation Facilities

652. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: