

Helicopter Services in North East

In order to provide connectivity to remote areas as also for providing air connectivity to these areas with rest of India, helicopter services are in operation in the NE States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura with subsidy from Ministry of Home Affairs. It further aims to provide affordable passenger transport in NER, evacuation during natural calamities and for urgent medical evacuation etc. MHA bears 75% of total cost of operation after deducting passenger recovery or flat 20% of actual operation cost, which is more. For the purpose of restricting subsidy, annual ceiling of flying hours has been fixed for the helicopter service operating in these States as tabulated below.

North East State	Type of Helicopter	No. of flying hours sanctioned per annum
Arunachal Pradesh	Ist MI-172	960
	2nd MI-172	1200
	Bell 412	1300
Manipur	Bell 412	750
Meghalaya	Dauphin	1000
Mizoram	Dauphin – 2 Helicopters	1200
Nagaland	Bell 412 - 2 Helicopters	1200
Sikkim	Bell-407	1200
Tripura	Dauphin	480

Year-wise details of expenditure made under Helicopter Service for NER in last seven years -

(In crore)

Years	Expenditure/ Fund released
2014-15	53.41
2015-16	76.45
2016-17	86.00
2017-18	86.00
2018-19	90.00
2019-20	100.00
2020-21	72.46