First Made in India Dornier Aircraft Flight

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<u>In news</u>—Alliance Air's made-in-India HAL Dornier 228 aircraft took off for its first commercial flight on Dibrugarh-Pasighat route recently.

About the Dornier 228 aircraft-

- Dornier 228 is a twin-turboprop short take-off and landing utility aircraft, manufactured by HAL for the Indian Coast Guard, Indian Air Force and the Indian navy.
- The made-in-India aircraft can accommodate two crew members, and 17 passengers.
- The aircraft can be used for multiple purposes including aerial survey, pollution prevention, search and rescue, commuter transport, transporting troops, evacuation of casualties, cargo, logistics support, among others.
- The flight will be operational from Dibrugarh in Assam to Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh and finally to Lilabari in Assam.
- Alliance Air, a public sector airline company, had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a Central Public Sector Unit under Ministry of Defence to operate Indian made Dornier aircraft, which is called Hindustan aircraft.
- With this, Alliance Air becomes the first commercial airline to fly Indian made aircraft for civil operations.
- The deployment of Indian made Do-228 will be done in a phased manner.
- In the **first phase**, 2 Hindustan aircrafts would be stationed at Dibrugarh, to connect Tezu, Pasighat and

Ziro.

- In the second phase of the program, connectivity to Mechuka, Tuting and Vijoy Nagar has been planned.
- In the coming 15 days, the airline will connect Tezu and after that, within 30 days, air connectivity to Ziro will commence.