

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:149

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000

AGREEMENT BETWEEN VIRGIN ATLANTIC AND SINGAPORE AIRLINES

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a): whether the international carriers `Virgin Atlantic` and `the Singapore Airlines` have entered into a mega deal to present a tough competition to Air India;

(b): if so, the details of the Virgin-SIA collaboration and the manner in which it is likely to affect Air India adversely; and

(c): the steps taken and being taken by the Air India to meet the challenge?

Answer

----- THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION br> (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b) and (c): According to unofficial reports, Singapore Airlines would acquire some equity in Virgin Atlantic. Details of this agreement are not available with the Government of India. However, such a deal does not affect traffic rights between India and Singapore on the one hand and India and the UK on the other.