

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3407  
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002  
FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN AVIATION SECTOR  
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Air India Board met recently to discuss future expansion plans in the light of the recent Government decision to increase the foreign Direct Investment from 26 per cent to 49 per cent;
- (b) if so, the main points discussed in the meeting;
- (c) whether any concrete steps have been proposed for growth plan of Air India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN )

(a), (b), (c) and (d) : No such decision has been taken by Government for increasing Foreign Direct Investment from 26 per cent to 49 per cent. However, Air India has constituted an in-house Expert Committee to develop Air India's fleet plan for the next five years and pattern of operations from 2003/04 to 2007/08 based on an assessment of market opportunities for capacity expansion in existing/additional markets, requirements to offer a competitive product; an assessment of the need to induct aircraft of appropriate range and size into Air India's fleet, etc.