GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3317 ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006 INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES OF AIR INDIA Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) The names of the cities in foreign countries, where Air India (AI) operates its services ;

(b)Whether the Government proposes to expand the said services ;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d)Whether the Government proposes to start direct Air India flights to USA ;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

(f) The time by which the said service is likely to be started ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) : Air India and its subsidiary viz. Air India Express, presently operate international services through their own operations to the following cities namely New York, Newark, Chicago,Los Angles, Toronto, London, Birmingham, Paris, Frankfurt, Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Dubai, Sharjah, Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam, Doha, Muscat, Salalah, Kuwait, Bahrain, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Seoul, Osaka, Tokyo, Jakarta, Shanghai, Hongkong, Dhaka, Nairobi and Dares Salaam.

(b) and (c) : Air India and Air India Express together have placed an order for induction of 68 new aircraft from Boeing Airplane Company and these are being delivered in phases beginning November, 2006. The first aircraft has been delivered on 30.11.2006. With the induction of these new aircraft, Air India and Air India Express have plans to increase services to the existing destinations as well as add new destinations in the regions of North America, Europe, East Asia, Australia, Africa, SAARC etc.

(d),(e) and (f) : Air India operates all its present services to USA via one stop in Europe. With the proposed induction of the new Ultra Long Range aircraft B777-200LR, Air India plans to offer non-stop services between USA and India with this aircraft from April 2007.