

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3402
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2007
AGREEMENT WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has not agreed for an Open Sky Policy with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) at present but could become a reality only by 2012;
- (b) if so, whether the Open Sky Policy refers to a policy wherein any number of flights can be operated to any number of destinations in a country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government feels that the issue of fifth freedom rights wherein a carrier from India can fly from the country to any foreign destination via an ASEAN country has to be discussed; and
- (e) if so, the details and the other main reasons put forward by the Government?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(c),(d) & (e):- As announced by the Prime Minister in the recently concluded 5th ASEAN-India summit in Cebu on 14th January, 2007, the Government is willing to engage the ASEAN authorities in a discussion on Open Sky Policy. However no specific proposal on the contours of such a policy has so far been exchanged between the ASEAN authorities and India.