

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3140
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT WITH HONG KONG
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Hong Kong have discussed the issue of bilateral traffic rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of such discussions;
- (c) whether Indian carriers can now fly directly to Hong Kong;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the manner in which passengers travelling between both the countries will be benefited?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Bilateral Air Services talks were held between India and Hong Kong on 17-18 December, 2007 at New Delhi, during which a Memorandum Of Understanding (MoU) was signed. The details of the MOU is as under:

- (i) For direct services, capacity entitlements have been increased by 27 services/ week with certain restrictions.
- (ii) The Hong kong and Indian designated carriers can exercise beyond 5th freedom traffic rights on a total of 21 services/ week with certain restrictions.
- (e) The increase in capacity entitlements for the designated airlines is expected to meet the growing traffic demand in the sector and the passengers travelling between the two countries will get more travel options.