

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2284  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2010  
AIR CARGO MOVEMENT  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) the details of air cargo handled by the State-owned airlines during the last three years;
- (b) whether the commercial organization the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has carried out any study regarding increase in air cargo as compare to railway and sea cargo during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the airlines to make air cargo handling more attractive?

**Answer**

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

(a): The total uplift of cargo by erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines during the year 2006-07 was 76643 tonnes and 95623 tonnes respectively. After merger of Erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines with National Aviation Company of India Limited(Air India), the uplift of cargo was 1,63,759 tonnes in 2007-08 and 1,41,164 tonnes in 2008-09.

(b) and (c): Yes, Sir. ASSOCHAM had conducted a study titled `Changing Pattern of Cargo Traffic in India` in September,2007. As per the said study the average cargo traffic growth rate of Civil Aviation sector for 2005-07 was 19% as against 10.3% of Ports & Shipping and 9.2% of Railways.

(d): In June 2007, Air India had started its dedicated Freighter Service connecting Chennai/Bangalore/Mumbai to Europe. This opened up larger volumes of international cargo to the Indian stations. These freighters have been temporarily suspended from September 2009 due to economic downturn but they are being reinstated in April 2010 to enable Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai offer more cargo capacity out of India. To offer more capacity for import cargo, Air India has bonded trucking service to connect Mumbai to various cities in India.