

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3407
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010
PROPOSAL TO START NEW AIRLINES
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposals from any of the State Governments for starting their own airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to start Air Kerala and;
- (d) if so, the actions taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) and (b):- State Govt. of Chattisgarh has submitted a proposal to the DGCA for starting air services from airstrip/airports of Chattisgarh by the State Govt. itself with support of a private flying training institute i.e. Chattisgarh Aviation Academy.

(c) and (d):- Though no proposal for formation of any airline by the name `Air Kerala` is pending with the Government for clearance, the Government of Kerala had informed that a public limited company, `Air Kerala International Services Limited` has been registered as a Special Purpose Vehicle for a budget airline project. The Government of Kerala requested this Ministry for exemption to the proposed airline from the stipulated conditions relating to fleet size and the length of operation in the domestic sector for an airline to be considered for international operations. This request was not considered in the light of the existing Government policy regarding the minimum fleet size of 20 aircraft and experience of 5 years continuous operations in domestic sector for permitting an Indian scheduled carrier to operate international services