

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4544
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2010
AIR INDIA OPERATIONS
Shanavas Shri M. I.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the national carrier Air India has acquired an ATR Aircraft for operation between Cochin and Agatti in Lakshadweep;
- (b) if so, whether the said aircraft has not been made operational in the sector till date; and
- (c) if so, the proposed date by which the aircraft would be made operational in the said sector?

Answer

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

(a), (b) and (c): No, Madam. Air India does not have the practice of acquiring/leasing aircraft for usage on specific sectors. At present, Air India's subsidiary, Alliance Air, has 7 ATR aircraft in its fleet. The current and planned deployment of ATR aircraft is fully committed within the operational resources with the airline and therefore engaging aircraft for Cochin/Agatti sector is not being planned for the present. However, Air India currently operates Beach Craft aircraft between Cochin and Agatti.