

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1593  
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010  
WITHDRAWAL OF FLIGHTS  
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**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the public carrier Air India has been withdrawing flights from some of the most profitable routes citing `poor load and viability` or `shortage of cabin crew`;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of flights which have been withdrawn from the southern region and the average seat occupancy rate in the cancelled flights throughout the year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to restore these flights; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b) and (c): The flights operated in Southern region have been rationalised on account of load factors and route analysis. Hence some flights have been withdrawn, while on some routes frequency has increased along with introduction of some standalone services between the cities of Southern region and other cities. The flights withdrawn to/ from South India include Chennai- Colombo- Chennai, Hyderabad-Sharjah- Hyderabad, Trivandrum- Bangalore- Chennai -Trivandrum, Chennai- Coimbatore- Chennai, Bangalore- Singapore- Bangalore, Chennai- Kuala Lumpur- Chennai and Bangalore- Mumbai- Bangalore. The passenger load factor on these flights has been on much lower side. In the current financial year, Air India has introduced new flights on Delhi-Goa sector.

Besides, Air India has increased frequency of operations on flights from Delhi to Chennai and Delhi to Cochin. Services on Trivandrum- Dammam, Bangalore- Male, Chennai-Goa-Kuwait, Chennai - Hyderabad-Ahmedabad-Kuwait have also been increased. Mumbai- Cochin- Trivandrum daily service will now operate as daily standalone services on Mumbai-Cochin and Mumbai-Trivandrum routes.

The services on Hyderabad-Mumbai- Frankfurt- Chicago, Ahmedabad- Frankfurt- Newark, Amritsar- London- Toronto and Mumbai- New York & Delhi-New York have been restructured.

Apart from these, 27 flights per week of Air India Express were withdrawn from 20.9.2010 to 30.10.2010.

(d) and (e): A number of flights from Kerala would be restored from January`2011, after induction of the recently recruited crews on completion of their mandatory training.