

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1603
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
OPERATION OF FLIGHTS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons that Air India is not operating its flights to Vijayawada and Rajahmundry in spite of having huge potential;
- (b) whether the Ministry has given permission only to one private airline to fly to the above destinations;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which Air India is going to introduce flights in the above sectors either from Hyderabad or from Delhi?

Answer

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

- (a) : Air India is not operating flights to Vijayawada and Rajahmundry because its current and planned deployment of aircraft is fully committed within the operational resources with the airline.
- (b) and (c): No, Madam. The airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to meeting the 'Route Dispersal Guidelines' issued by the Government.
- (d): Air India is presently unable to provide any firm commitment in view of the resource constraints.