GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:439 ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011 EVACUATION OF INDIANS Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Pal Shri Jagdambika;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India recently evacuated a large number of Indians from Egypt due to the recent unrest in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their numbers;

(c) whether these passengers were overcharged for their travel back to the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the rationale behind such a move; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) and (b): Yes, Madam. Air India operated 3 flights to evacuate Indian nationals from Egypt. In all 749 passengers (including 2 infants) were evacuated by operating two 747-400 ferry flight on 30.1.2011 and 3.2.2011 as well as by diverting a scheduled Jeddah/Mumbai flight on 1.2.2011.

(c), (d) and (e): No, Madam. The fare charged was only to cover the direct cost of operating the flight on a `no profit` basis.