

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:143

ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011

UTILISATION OF AIRCRAFT

Kashinath Shri Taware Suresh;Lingam Shri P.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and type of aircraft operated by Air India vis-a-vis the private airlines;
- (b) whether the fleet of Air India aircraft is being optimally utilised in terms of passengers load, manpower employed per aircraft etc. as compared to those owned by the private airlines;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the average utilisation of Air India aircraft fleet and the corresponding data for major foreign airlines;
- (d) whether the number of passengers travelling on Air India, both domestic and international, has declined in the recent time;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps being taken to make the national carrier attractive, take a competitive edge and optimally utilise the aircraft of Air India?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.143 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2011 REGARDING UTILISATION OF AIRCRAFT.

(a): The number and type of aircraft operated by Air India and the private airlines are at Annexure-I.

(b) and (c): The utilisation of the newer aircraft by Air India approximates the industry standards. However, the older aircraft are lower than the standard due to maintenance and other such issues. Utilisation of aircraft also depends upon the sector length they are expected to travel the higher – the higher the sector length the higher the utilisation. The aircraft utilization of Air India, private airlines and foreign airlines is at Annexure-II. The manpower per aircraft in Air India is 263 where as it is 150 of Jet Airways, 59 Jetlite, 111 of Kingfisher, 118 of Spicejet, 185 of Go Air and 102 of Indgo.

(d) and (e): The passenger loads has declined in the last two years due to an overall recession that followed a huge spike in the price of fuel. Over this year, there has been a recovery in loads and yields. Operating losses have declined over this year. The passenger load factor of Air India and the private airlines is at Annexure-III.

(f): Air India has acquired state-of-the-art new aircraft and has plans to phase out the old aircraft. This would lead to better utilization of the fleet as the maintenance and turnaround time of the aircraft would come down. With the launch of Air India's primary hub at Delhi, load factor has its increased as it is now in a position to carry sixth freedom and feeder traffic. Air India's carriage is expected further improve as and when Mumbai is launched similarly, with state-of-art hub facilities. Special efforts has been made to improve the on time performance and customer care. The on time performance has been significantly higher this year over previous years.