

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:27

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011

WITHDRAWAL FROM PROFITABLE ROUTES

Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Air India has withdrawn from several routes including some profitable ones during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, route-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that on the one hand, Air India had taken a number of aeroplanes on dry lease between 2000 and 2005 and on the other hand, it did not have pilots to fly them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons/justification therefor;
- (e) whether the average employees aircraft ratio in Air India is on the higher side as compared to other aviation operators in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (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.27 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.11.2011 REGARDING WITHDRAWAL FROM PROFITABLE ROUTES

(a) and (b): Air India has withdrawn its services from 14 routes. None of these were profitable.

These routes are:-

(i) Mumbai-Sharjah, (ii) Calicut-Doha-Bahrain, (iii) Mumbai-Vadodra, (iv) Kolkata-Ahmedabad/Jaipur-Kolkata, (v) Hyderabad-Mumbai, (vi) Chennai-Calicut, (vii) Chennai-Mumbai- Kuwait, (viii) Hyderabad-Cochin-Coimbatore- Hyderabad, (ix) Kolkata-Hyderabad-Kolkata, (x) Bangalore-Singapore, (xi) Chennai-Coimbatore, (xii) Kochi- Agati (This was subsequently reinstated), (xiii) Mumbai-Nairobi, (xiv) Chennai-Dammam.

(c) and (d): None of the aircraft were grounded for want of pilots.

(e) and (f): Aircraft to employee ratio varies from airline to airline depending on the nature and extent of functions performed in-house as well as the operational network of the airline. The employee to aircraft ratio in Air India as on Oct. 01, 2011 is about 228.