

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1337

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012

AI PILOTS STRIKE

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Ajay Kumar SHRI ;Antony Shri Anto;Bais Shri Ramesh;Bajirao Shri Patil Padamsinha ;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Devi Aswamedh;Dhurve Jyoti;Gulshan Smt. Paramjit Kaur;Jindal Shri Naveen;Kaswan Shri Ram Singh;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Manjhi Shri Hari;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Shri C. R. ;Punia Shri P.L. ;Ramshankar Dr. ;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash;Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar;Sampath Shri Anirudhan;Singh Shri Mahabali;Singh Shri Radha Mohan;Singh Shri Vijay Bahadur;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvvaraya Swamy ;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pilots and other officials of Air India were on strike recently;
- (b) if so, the number of days the said strike continued and the amount of loss suffered by Air India per day due to the said strike along with the number of flights domestic or international affected/ cancelled/rescheduled during the strike;
- (c) the details of the demands of the striking pilots along with the reaction of the Government to their demands as well as towards the striking pilots;
- (d) whether any Committee has been constituted to look into the incident/ mechanism devised to deal with the grievances of pilots and other staff members;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with the crises and to recover the loss and to devise a mechanism to check the recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) and (b): A Section of Air India pilots represented by Indian Pilots Guild(IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner effective 1900 hours on 07.05.2012. The Pilots agitation continued for nearly 60 days and was called off w.e.f. 03.07.2012. Loss suffered by Air India due to recent strike of the pilots is approximately Rs.600 crores. Air India had been operating 46 international flights per day before the strike. Due to pilots agitation, Air India restructured its operations and, in the interim schedule, operated 39 international flights per day.

(c): The agitation was primarily against the decision of the Management to fulfill its commitment made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 02.05.2012 regarding training of Pilots of the erstwhile Indian Airlines on Boeing 787 aircraft. The Management of Air India has de-recognized the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) and the services of 98 Pilots were terminated.

(d) to (f): The Management of Air India has always been open to dialogue with the Unions and is in constant touch with them to redress their grievances, if any. Open House sessions are being conducted at every level to enable employees to come out with their grievances and issues. The issues brought out in Open House Sessions are dealt with in time-bound manner. A Committee has been constituted comprising of Director(Personnel), Director(SBU) and E.D.(Personnel) to examine the cases of terminated pilots.