

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:86
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009
NACIL FLIGHTS TO GULF REGION
Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Aviation Company of India Ltd.(NACIL) has decided to stop the operation of IC coded flights from Kerala to Gulf Countries;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the NACIL had already withdrawn any flights from the Gulf countries to India during the last one year; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. NACIL has decided to rationalise IC coded services and IX coded services (Air India Express) on Kerala-Gulf routes by withdrawing the IC coded services and substituting these with IX coded services as the revenue earned on IC coded services on these routes have not been adequate even to cover the cash cost of operations, while, the low cost flights operated under IX code have given operating surpluses. This is aimed at improving the overall profitability of NACIL. However, the restructuring would result in an increase in the seats offered by NACIL on the Kerala-Gulf routes from 26100 seats per week in summer 2009 schedule to 26400 seats per week.

(c) and (d): Yes, Sir. In order to reduce the losses and to improve profitability of NACIL's operations, several similar changes have been implemented to the schedule IC/AI coded services on the India-Gulf routes in order to cut back loss making routes and enhance the profitable ones. However, NACIL offered more seats now although under a single class configuration.