

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4215

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

LAUNCHING OF NEW AIRLINE BY KERALA GOVERNMENT

Bajirao Shri Patil Padamsinha

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any request from the Government of Kerala to launch its own airline, Air Kerala is pending for grant of permission of the centre;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the proposal;
- (c) whether the proposal meets all the required criteria for Central Government approval;
- (d) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Air Kerala is based on the public-private-partnership model, and;
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to approve the proposal at the earliest?;

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) to (f): The Government of Kerala has informed that the Cochin International Airport Ltd had worked out a project for starting 'Air Kerala' airlines as its subsidiary. It has also been informed that the proposed airlines requires two exemptions for operationalization, viz,

- (i) exemption from the condition of ownership of 20 aircrafts, and
- (ii) exemption from the condition of five years' experience of domestic flying.

However, no formal proposal has so far been received by the Ministry in this regard.