

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:48
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013
GROUNDING OF A1 DREAMLINERS
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;McLeod Smt. Ingrid

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Dreamliner aircraft in Air India fleet and the amount spent by the Government on buying/ maintaining and training its pilots thereof;
- (b) whether the Government/Air India has recently grounded/proposes to ground its Dreamliner planes and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the amount of loss being suffered by Air India per day due to stopping of operation/grounding of Dreamliner planes in the country and abroad;
- (c) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has formed a technical panel to review Dreamliner safety in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the contractual agreement for procurement of these planes contain any provision for penalty on the manufacturer in case of inherent technical faults, and;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the penalty/compensation sought/proposed to be sought by the overnment/Air India for the commercial losses suffered by it along with the in this regard?;

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.48 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.2.2013 REGARDING GROUNDING OF A1 DREAMLINERS

(a): Out of 27 Dreamliners (B787 aircraft), purchase agreement for which was signed by Air India with Boeing in 2005, delivery of 6 aircraft has been taken so far. As per the Turn Around Plan (TAP)/Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) of Air India, these aircraft are to be acquired on a ?Sale and Lease Back? (SLB) basis. As these aircraft are new, their maintenance cost is very low. For training its Pilots on B787 aircraft, Air India currently is utilizing free entitlement.

(b): Air India has grounded all its 6 B787 aircraft since 17.01.2013, following a directive of DGCA that was based on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), USA, Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) dated 16.01.2013, which required all B787 operators to temporarily ground the aircraft. The losses due to the ground of these aircraft are being worked out.

(c): No, Madam.

(d) and (e): The purchase agreement warrants that at the time of delivery all Boeing products will be free from defects in materials, process of manufacture and workmanship, including the workmanship utilized to install suppliers products, engines, etc. The agreement also warrants that all Boeing products will be free from defects in design, including selection of materials and process of manufacture. In case of B787 aircraft such warranty is applicable for a period of 48 months after delivery. The issue of compensation for the loss incurred by Air India due to grounding of Dreamliners will be taken up with M/s Boeing at the appropriate time.