

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3026
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013
CHEAPER RATES FOR GULF LABOURERS BY AIR INDIA
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India used to sell tickets at cheaper rates to the labourers emigrating from different States of the country to the Gulf countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this service is still available for Indian labourers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Fares to Gulf ex- India are available for sale to all passengers, including labourers, through various distribution channels right through the year. The labour traffic normally purchases One Way tickets as they stay overseas for longer durations. Air India recognizes the price sensitivity of this segment of traffic and to cater to this market, establishes one way fares which are competitive. In addition, Air India Express, a low cost airline also operates to various cities in Gulf, and the fares offered by Air India Express, are 15-20% lower than those of other full service carriers.