

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3122

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013

COURIER SERVICE OF AIR INDIA

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**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the national carrier Air India plans to expand its business by starting its courier services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Air India has some other expansion plans in the pipeline which will help the airline to cut its losses and reduce dependence on the centre;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Air India to utilize its resources/infrastructure and the surplus manpower including engineers in a better way which would be an additional source of revenue to the company?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : No, Madam.

(c) & (d) : Air India has ordered for fleet of 27 B-787 aircraft, out of which 7 B-787 aircraft have been delivered till now. The delivery schedule of the balance B-787 aircraft is given below:

Year	No. of Aircraft
2013	07
2014	05
2015	06
2016	02
Total	20

Air India has introduced B787 aircraft for London, Frankfurt, Paris and Birmingham. Air India is going to commence flight operations by B787 for Australia w.e.f. 29th August, 2013 and is also planning flights to Rome, Milan and Moscow in the near future. B787 aircraft is around 15% more fuel efficient and has lower maintenance cost than other similar category aircraft available in the market.

(e) : Under the TAP/FRP, Air India has also taken several measures to improve the financial condition of Air India, which are as under.

#Fuel efficiency and gap analysis conducted with the help of IATA and recommendations are being resulting savings fuel. Critical analysis of fuel consumption on all flights by setting up a Fuel Council and Fuel manager.

# Route rationalization and elimination of route network involving parallel operations.

# Phasing out of old fleet thereby reducing the maintenance cost.

# Freezing of employment in non-operational areas.

# Closure of overseas off-line offices at certain locations.

# Leveraging the assets of the Company to increase MRO revenue and revenue from Company's real estate properties.

# Operationalisation of subsidiary companies, i.e. Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL) to tap third party business potential, i.e. MRO facilities and Ground Handling business.

# Monetizing its assets to increase its revenue from ancillary business.