

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3118

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013

AIRHOSTESSES ON LEAVE

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Paranjpe Shri Anand
Prakash;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many Air India Airhostesses who had taken a two year leave have failed to return to work although their leave got over a long time back, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any action against these Airhostesses;
- (c) if so, whether the recent medical tests conducted has also found that 40 percent of the cabin crew found to be medically unfit;
- (d) the action proposed to be taken by Air India in this regard;and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to smooth running of Air India?

Answer

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

- (a): 115 Cabin Crew had taken two years leave under Leave Without Pay Scheme 2009. Out of these, 69 Cabin Crew have returned to work after two years leave and the remaining 46 have not joined.
- (b): The 46 Cabin Crew who did not return to work after two years leave have not been allowed to extend their leave and necessary action is being taken against them by the Management of Air India.
- (c) : No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise, in view of (c) above.
- (e): The following steps have been taken by Air India for smooth running:
 - (i) With a view to harmonize the wage, salary, work practices, etc. of all categories of employees of erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines, the Government had constituted a Committee of external experts under the Chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) D.M.Dharmadhikari.

The Committee's report has been accepted by the Government and Air India has formed sub-committees for its implementation.
 - (ii) Route rationalization of erstwhile AI & IA routes and elimination of route network involving parallel operation
 - (iii) Induction of brand new aircraft on several domestic & international routes.
 - (iv) Phasing out of old fleet and consequential reduction in maintenance cost.
 - (v) Closure of overseas offline offices at certain locations
 - (vi) Up-gradation of Frequent Flyer Programme (FFP) and Introduction of several marketing initiatives including Companion Free Scheme, Apex fare, GOI packages, Preferred Agents Partnership, Promotional of web bookings and other promotional schemes like AI Holidays, Get Upfront scheme etc.