

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4418
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014
AVIATION POLICY
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi;De Dr. Ratna

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any evaluation study have been conducted to know the impact of private airlines on national carrier during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to improve the performance of the national carrier and make it more competitive and profitable vis-a-vis private carriers?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d): In order to improve its operational and financial performance, Air India has taken various steps which include (i) Complete route rationalization of erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines routes and elimination of route network involving parallel operations; (ii) Rationalization of certain loss making routes; (iii) induction of brand new aircraft on several domestic & international routes to increase passengers appeal; (iv) Phasing out of old fleet and consequential reduction of maintenance and engineering costs; (v) Return of leased aircraft at the end of their tenure or prematurely; (vi) Freezing of employment in non-operational areas; (vii) Redeployment of staff to cut in-fructuous expenditure; (viii) Grounding of ageing fleet including B747-400 which would be used only for certain lines of operations and for operating VVIP flights.