

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1103  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015  
GROUNDED AIRCRAFT OF AIR INDIA  
Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

- (a) whether the number of grounded aircraft in Air India`s fleet is against the acceptable norm;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take any action to bring the number within the acceptable norm; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to ensure that Air India`s flights are not delayed?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) to (c): There is no acceptable norm for the grounding of Aircraft. However, it may be noted that the aircraft grounding is kept minimum to the extent possible. The various reasons for grounding of the aircraft are as follows:

Scheduled Grounding : To carry out the maintenance of the aircraft after completion of certain Flight Hours/Flight Cycles, e.g. A Check, C Check, etc.

Un-scheduled Grounding : This can be mainly because of the following:

- i) Engine Failure at non-parent base;
- ii) Aircraft involved in any incident / accident with some structural damage;
- iii) Aircraft defects at non-parent base where the man-power and spares/components are not available or due to shortage of spares.;;

(d): All the applicable maintenance procedures, inspections and checks as required by manufacturer and DGCA are complied with and aircraft maintained as per applicable norms.