

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3066

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015

DAILY FLIGHTS BETWEEN TIRUCHIRAPPALLI AND DELHI

Chandrakasi Shri M.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria being followed by Air India to introduce new flights between two cities where air services are inadequate;
- (b) the details of passenger traffic in Air India flights and other private flights operating between Delhi and Tiruchirappalli;
- (c) whether Air India has any plan to introduce new daily flights between Tiruchirappalli and Delhi or to divert the existing south bound flights to Madurai, Kochi and Trivandrum via Tiruchirappalli so as to provide air connectivity to Tiruchirappalli from Delhi and vice versa on daily basis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a): Air India monitors the market developments as well as carries out market studies to assess traffic on a route, estimated revenues likely to be generated on the said route and plans for introduction of flights based on their commercial viability.
- (b): Air India currently does not have plans to introduce flights to/from Tiruchirappalli. However, as per winter 2014 schedule Jet Airways is operating scheduled 21 / week domestic flights to/from Tiruchirappalli.
- (c) and (d): Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. However, Air India currently does not have plans to introduce flights from Delhi to Tiruchirappalli or divert the existing south bound flights on this route as the traffic potential is not sufficient for commercially viable operations.