

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4522  
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014  
PASSENGER LOAD FACTOR OF AIR INDIA  
Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao

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

- (a) whether Air India is considering to increase the number of economy class seats with a view to improving its passenger load factor;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by Air India in this regard?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Siddeshwara)

(a) to (c): Air India Board in its 43rd meeting held on 27 February 2012, approved the proposal to increase economy class seats in A320 and A321 fleet of Air India. This was done by removing some `J` class seats and replacing the same with economy class seats.

These reconfigurations have been undertaken based on the historical trend of load factors on the domestic flight, where economy class load factors are showing an increasing trend as compared to the `J` class occupancies.;

As of date all the 14 old A320 aircraft have been reconfigured to 168 seats and 4 new A320 have been reconfigured from 145 seats to 155 seats.;

Also, 12 out of 20 Airbus A321 aircraft have been reconfigured to 182 seat from 172 seat configuration.;