

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 4020
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd April 2018)

Sale of Air India

4020. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that process of finalising the contours of Air India's is Stake sale is being finalised by Group of Ministers (GoMs);
- (b) if so, whether GoM would also consider that Airlines like Jet Airways are barred from submitting expression of interest due to alleged link of top executive of airlines with underworld groups; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 28.06.2017, has given in principle approval for considering strategic disinvestment of Air India and its five subsidiaries and constitution of Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) to guide the process of strategic disinvestment from time to time and decide the following:

- i) Treatment of unsustainable debt of Air India,
- ii) Hiving off of certain assets to a shell company,
- iii) Demerger and strategic disinvestment of three profit-making subsidiaries,
- iv) The quantum of disinvestment, and
- v) The universe of bidders

The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for disinvestment of Air India (AI) including AI's shareholding interest in the Air India Express Ltd. (AIXL) and Air India SATS have been issued/published on 28.03.2018.

(b) and (c): No such information has come to the notice of Ministry of Civil Aviation. However, the Highest Bidder shall undergo a security clearance process in accordance with the terms of the RFP and guidelines issued by DIPAM.
