

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3861
(To be answered on the 8th December 2016)**

OPERATION OF AIR INDIA FLIGHTS

3861. DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Air India (AI) proposes to start flights from the airports from where flights are not being operated at present;**
- (b) whether any mechanism has been developed to discontinue flights or change the time schedule of flights on nonprofitable routes; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to increase human resource by AI?**

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a): At present, Air India has no plans to start flights from any of the new airports from where flights are not being operated.

(b) and (c): Air India continually monitors the market developments as well as carries out market studies with an objective to introduce new routes, increase number of services on existing routes, makes modifications to existing Schedules and adjusts seats offered on a route (equipment change) so as to match seats offered with the demand for seats etc.

Air India also monitors the carriage, load factors and financial performance of services on its network and makes efforts to improve their performance. Whenever any services give rise to cash losses, Air India analyses the reasons for the losses and based on the strategic importance of such services to its network arrives at a decision whether to continue or withdraw such services. While determining the desirability or otherwise of discontinuing operations of loss-making services, Air India takes into account the revenue contributions made by the subject services to its other services by way of feeder traffic. As such, non-profitability of any one flight is not taken in isolation as the sole barometer of its financial performance.

To meet the operational requirement of the company, Pilots and Cabin Crew are recruited from time to time. So far, 896 Cabin Crew and 248 Pilots have been recruited.

* * * * *