

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3905
(To be answered on the 3rd January 2019)

REVIVAL OF AIR INDIA

3905. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Ministry is trying to revive the financial health of the national carrier by infusion of funds which would be sufficient to operate its fleet, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the national carrier, Air India is facing acute shortage of pilots as well as errant behaviour on the part of the pilots resulting in delayed flight schedules; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal pending with the Ministry to dispose of the national carrier Air India in piecemeal steps since there are no takers for the Rs. 40000 crore in the red behemoth, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): The Government has prepared a Revival Plan of Air India. It is focused on building a competitive and profitable airline group. The Revival Plan comprises several major elements including:

- (i) A comprehensive financial package, as approved by Government of India - this includes transferring noncore debt and assets to a SPV
- (ii) Higher levels of operational efficiency by strengthening management and implementing best practice business processes
- (iii) Robust organizational and governance reforms to be implemented by an eminent Board
- (iv) Differentiated business strategies for each Air India's core businesses
- (v) World-class HR practices to ensure a talented and motivated workforce and
- (vi) Sale of non-core real estate assets and strategic disinvestment of subsidiaries such as Air India Air Transport Services Ltd. (AIATSL).

(b): No, Madam. Air India is not facing shortage of pilots. Air India has adequate pilots for its current network of operations. Air India has over 100 trainee pilots to cater for envisaged network enhancement. The delayed flight schedules are due to various reasons and also, attributable to the pilots, in some cases .

(c): The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, AISAM has directed to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries viz. Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL). Further, AISAM has, inter-alia, approved the contours for sale of subsidiaries of AI and directed to expedite the sale of AIATSL.