

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 770
(To be answered on the 21st November 2019)**

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES FOR HAJ PROGRAMME 2012

**770. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA
SHRI P.K. KUNHALIKUTTY**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Air India has blocked the payment of small enterprises for services rendered during Air India Haj 2012 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry of Finance has directed the public sector undertakings to clear outstanding dues of small entrepreneurs and service providers;
- (c) if so, the complete details of outstanding payments by Air India to service providers that operated the Haj Programme, 2012 as on 31st October, 2019;
- (d) the details of legal opinion taken by Air India on releasing of dues by Air India on Haj Programme, 2012; and
- (e) whether Air India proposes to clear the outstanding dues of small enterprises in line with the directive of Ministry of Finance and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a): No Sir, Air India has not blocked any payments of small enterprise for Haj 2012 operations

(b): A meeting with the major PSUs was co-chaired by Secretary (Expenditure) and Secretary (Economic Affairs) on 27.08.2019 to review the pending payments to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by PSUs. During the meeting, PSUs were directed to make payments to vendors, MSMEs as well as to big companies as promptly as possible in order to ensure adequate money supply/liquidity in market. Further to this, another meeting was taken by Finance Minister on 28.09.2019 with major PSUs to review pending payments. PSUs were directed to clear all outstanding dues.

(c) & (d): Air India has not blocked any payment of small enterprise for Haj 2012 operations and no amount is pending with Air India of such small enterprise. An amount of USD 222,537 is outstanding with Air India of Orbest Airlines incorporated in Spain who had operated Haj 2012 flights. For Haj 2012 operations, Air India had entered into contract with Orbest Airlines and the said airline has gone into liquidation. As per legal advise, Air India is contractually bound to pay only to Orbest Airlines. It can pay the outstanding amount only to liquidators or to the new Board of Directors of Orbest Airlines

(e): Does not arise in view of (a), (c) & (d) above.
