

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 762
(To be answered on the 17th September 2020)**

VANDE BHARAT MISSION

**762. SHRI K. NAVASKANI
SHRI ANTO ANTONY**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has any details regarding number of people evacuated from various countries by Air India and other airlines so far under Vande Bharat Mission (VBM);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof including total number of persons evacuated, number of flights operated, airline-wise and the name of the country from which evacuation has taken place so far;**
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints about the price of air tickets under VBM Flights;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;**
- (e) whether the evacuation process have been completed;**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (g) whether the Government has any details regarding number of Air India staff including pilots and cabin crews affected corona virus during operations; and**
- (h) 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) & (b): Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian

and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission.

As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, a total of 5817 inbound flights have been operated under the Vande Bharat Mission. Out of these, 2292 flights have been operated by Air India Group and 1938 flights by Private Indian carriers while the remaining have been operated by foreign carriers. Airline-wise details and name of countries from which evacuation has taken place till 31.08.2020 are available in Annexure.

(c) & (d): There were initially some complaints regarding high airfares in VBM flights in some sectors. The aircraft were travelling empty (ferry) on the outbound leg and fares were high as the cost of operations had to be recovered from the one-way load. Also, the COVID situation has added to the cost of operations towards PPE kits, new guidelines for ground handling, sanitizers, etc. However, these fares were substantially lower than fares charged by some of the competitor airlines. With the establishment of Air Bubble arrangements with various countries, the fares have come down and reflect market conditions.

(e) & (f): The number of persons awaiting repatriation is dynamic and the number of special repatriation flights is planned accordingly. As India enters into Air Bubble arrangements with different countries, the Vande Bharat Mission gets subsumed into this new arrangement.

(g) & (h): As on 10.09.2020, the total number of Air India group staff including pilots and cabin crews found affected with corona virus during operations are 829. All affected pilots and cabin crew have since recovered.

Airline-wise details (Till 31.08.2020)	
Airline	No. of flights
Air India	1184
Air India Express	1108
Air India Group Total	2292
GoAir	387
Indigo	1014
Spicejet	528
Vistara	9
Private Carriers Total	1938

COUNTRY WISE NUMBER OF REPATRIATED INDIANS TILL 31.08.2020		
Sl. No.	COUNTRY	NO. OF REPATRIATED INDIANS
1.	AFGHANISTAN	902
2.	ALGERIA	649
3.	ANGOLA	531
4.	ARMENIA	720
5.	AUSTRALIA	7110
6.	AZERBAIJAN	186
7.	BAHRAIN	22769
8.	BANGLADESH	5019
9.	BARBADOS	115
10.	BELARUS	225
11.	BELGIUM	287
12.	BHUTAN	85
13.	BRAZIL	510
14.	BRUNEI	272
15.	BULGARIA	499
16.	CAMBODIA	289
17.	CANADA	11384
18.	CHINA	513
19.	DENMARK	52
20.	DJIBOUTI	233
21.	EGYPT	1890
22.	ETHIOPIA	6101
23.	FIJI	5
24.	FINLAND	219
25.	FRANCE	12385
26.	GEORGIA	862
27.	GERMANY	14108
28.	GHANA	302

29.	GREECE	163
30.	HONG KONG	762
31.	INDONESIA	2585
32.	IRAN	3113
33.	IRAQ	6661
34.	IRELAND	485
35.	ISRAEL	438
36.	ITALY	2957
37.	JAPAN	2699
38.	JORDAN	400
39.	KAZAKHSTAN	3685
40.	KENYA	1124
41.	KUWAIT	84153
42.	KYRGYZSTAN	11142
43.	LAOS	427
44.	LATVIA	5
45.	LEBANON	893
46.	MADAGASCAR	84
47.	MALAYSIA	11464
48.	MALDIVES	6747
49.	MALTA	102
50.	MAURITIUS	900
51.	MEXICO	228
52.	MOLDOVA	243
53.	MONGOLIA	17
54.	MYANMAR	659
55.	NEPAL	332
56.	NETHERLANDS	3330
57.	NEW ZEALAND	1835
58.	NIGERIA	4398
59.	NORWAY	267
60.	OMAN	75367
61.	PAKISTAN	671
62.	PHILIPPINES	7017
63.	POLAND	336
64.	PORTUGAL	54
65.	QATAR	95652
66.	ROMANIA	8
67.	RUSSIA	8471
68.	SAUDI ARABIA	138459
69.	SCOTLAND	35
70.	SEYCHELLES	864
71.	SINGAPORE	20195
72.	SOUTH AFRICA	1161
73.	SOUTH KOREA	1081
74.	SPAIN	1117
75.	SRI LANKA	7208
76.	SUDAN	125
77.	SWEDEN	1270

78.	SWITZERLAND	7
79.	SYRIA	12
80.	TAIWAN	108
81.	TAJIKISTAN	1374
82.	TANZANIA	1640
83.	THAILAND	1824
84.	TUNISIA	25
85.	TURKEY	1102
86.	TURKMENISTAN	38
87.	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	394950
88.	UNITED KINGDOM	32645
89.	UKRAINE	8205
90.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	66692
91.	UZBEKISTAN	636
92.	VIETNAM	648
93.	YEMEN	76
94.	ZIMBABWE	5
95.	OTHERS	1299