

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3794  
(To be answered on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021)**

**FLIGHTS UNDER VANDE BHARAT MISSION**

**3794. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) the total number of inbound and outbound flights flown under Vande Bharat Mission;**
- (b) the total number of passengers that have taken these flights;**
- (c) the details of the countries and foreign airlines covered under Vande Bharat Mission and Air Bubbles;**
- (d) whether there is a cap on air fares on air bubbles and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the average time taken by Air India to refund amounts for cancelled tickets; and**
- (f) the number of cancelled tickets for which reimbursements are yet to be processed and reasons for the delay?**

**ANSWER**

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

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

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**(a) to (c): Under the Vande Bharat Mission, special repatriation flights have been operated by Air India group and private Indian carriers, along with chartered flights being operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 28.02.2021, a total of around 19,000 inbound flights have brought passengers to India. Out of this total, more than 9,000 flights have been operated by Air India Group while the remaining have been operated by private Indian carriers and foreign carriers. The names of countries from where evacuation has taken place till 28.02.2021 along with number of passengers is available in Annexure-A.**

**India has formalized air bubble arrangements with 27 countries as on 01.03.2021. These air bubble arrangements provide access directly or through transit facility to more than 100 countries. The names of countries with which air bubble arrangements have been formalized and the names of the foreign carriers which**

have operated under air bubbles are at Annexure-B.

**d) There is no cap on the air fares of air bubbles. The air fare is determined by market forces. However, under Vande Bharat Mission, the air fares charged by Indian carriers were regulated.**

**(e) The average time taken by Air India for refund in normal circumstances is 02 weeks. However, in wake of large scale cancellations of flights during COVID-19 pandemic and due to fund constraints, there have been some delays in processing refunds of these cancelled tickets.**

**(f) A large number tickets have been cancelled for which refund is still pending. The reason for the delay is mainly due to impact on revenue stream of the airline which was severely affected due to the complete stoppage of flights during lockdown period whereas fixed costs had to be incurred.**

**All refunds on cancellation of air tickets during COVID-19 lockdown are being processed as per the DGCA circular No. 4/1/2020-IR dated 07-10-2020. It may be noted that ticket refund is an ongoing process and refund applications from agents are being processed in airline offices.**

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COUNTRY WISE NUMBER OF REPATRIATED INDIANS TILL 28.02.2021		
SL. NO	COUNTRY	NO. OF REPATRIATED INDIANS
1	AFGHANISTAN	24831
2	ALGERIA	1338
3	ANGOLA	770
4	ARMENIA	720
5	AUSTRALIA	13225
6	AZERBAIJAN	186
7	BAHRAIN	66793
8	BANGLADESH	43622
9	BARBADOS	78140
10	BELARUS	232
11	BELGIUM	296
12	BHUTAN	2432
13	BRAZIL	510
14	BRUNEI	547
15	BULGARIA	698
16	CAMBODIA	596
17	CANADA	82288
18	CHINA	1267
19	CROATIA	3
20	DENMARK	53
21	DJIBOUTI	326
22	EGYPT	1892
23	ESTONIA	6
24	ETHIOPIA	14025
25	FIJI	5
26	FINLAND	232
27	FRANCE	64607
28	GEORGIA	2914
29	GERMANY	80567
30	GHANA	302
31	GREECE	163
32	HONG KONG	2784
33	HUNGARY	6
34	INDONESIA	4646
35	IRAN	6024
36	IRAQ	13586
37	IRELAND	485



<b>COUNTRY WISE NUMBER OF REPATRIATED INDIANS TILL 28.02.2021</b>		
<b>SL. NO.</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>NO. OF REPATRIATED INDIANS</b>
38	ISRAEL	1152
39	ITALY	12884
40	JAPAN	11530
41	JORDAN	838
42	KAZAKHSTAN	3861
43	KENYA	11506
44	KUWAIT	197372
45	KYRGYZSTAN	11297
46	LAOS	427
47	LATVIA	5
48	LEBANON	902
49	MADAGASCAR	84
50	MALAYSIA	42334
51	MALDIVES	87380
52	MALI	237
53	MALTA	256
54	MAURITIUS	1960
55	MEXICO	228
56	MOLDOVA	243
57	MONGOLIA	80
58	MOROCCO	99
59	MYANMAR	2216
60	NEPAL	15921
61	NETHERLANDS	22955
62	NEW ZEALAND	1897
63	NIGERIA	6501
64	NORWAY	267
65	OMAN	265587
66	PAKISTAN	683
67	PHILIPPINES	8473
68	POLAND	342
69	PORTUGAL	54
70	QATAR	282565
71	ROMANIA	8
72	RUSSIA	12474
73	RWANDA	2212
74	SAUDI ARABIA	438020



<b>COUNTRY WISE NUMBER OF REPATRIATED INDIANS TILL 28.02.2021</b>		
<b>SL. NO</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>NO. OF REPATRIATED INDIANS</b>
75	SCOTLAND	38
76	SEYCHELLES	2610
77	SINGAPORE	76090
78	SOUTH AFRICA	1161
79	SOUTH KOREA	4273
80	SPAIN	1117
81	SRI LANKA	20432
82	SUDAN	125
83	SWEDEN	1270
84	SWITZERLAND	30
85	SYRIA	12
86	TAIWAN	144
87	TAJIKISTAN	2382
88	TANZANIA	7982
89	THAILAND	5828
90	TUNISIA	25
91	TURKEY	2399
92	TURKMENISTAN	234
93	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	2032070
94	UNITED KINGDOM	181396
95	UKRAINE	8690
96	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	320485
97	UZBEKISTAN	2694
98	VIETNAM	1681
99	YEMEN	483
100	ZIMBABWE	5
101	OTHERS	15115





**List of Countries with which India has formalised Air Bubbles and the foreign airlines operating under Air Bubbles**

Sl. No	Country	Airlines
1	Afghanistan	Ariana Afghan Airlines
		Kam Air
2	Bahrain	Gulf Air
3	Bangladesh	Biman Bangla
		Novo Air
		US Bangla
4	Bhutan	Druk Air
5	Canada	Air Canada
6	Ethiopia	Ethiopian Airlines
7	France	Air France
8	Germany	Lufthansa
9	Iraq	Iraqi Airways
10	Japan	All Nippon Airways
		Japan Airlines
11	Kenya	Kenya Airways
12	Kuwait	Jazeera Airways
		Kuwait Airlines
13	Maldives	Maldivian
14	Nepal	Nepal Airlines
15	Netherlands	KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
16	Nigeria	Not operating
17	Oman	Oman Air
		Salam Air
18	Qatar	Qatar Airways
19	Russia	Aeroflot
20	Rwanda	Rwand Air
21	Seychelles	Not operating
22	Tanzania	Air Tanzania
23	Ukraine	Ukraine International Airlines
24	United Kingdom	British Airways
		Virgin Atlantic
25	UAE	Air Arabia
		Emirates
		Etihad
		Fly Dubai
26	USA	Delta Airlines (Code-share)
		United Airlines
27	Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan Airways

