

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1049
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
STRENGTHENING OF ARIANA AFGHAN AIRLINES
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have agreed to assist in strengthening fledging Ariana Afghan Airlines, flagship carrier of Afghanistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any agreement has been signed between the concerned parties in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Three Airbus A 300 B4 aircraft owned by Air-India were handed over to Ariana Afghan Airlines, flagship carrier of Afghanistan. Air-India provided training to 6 Pilots, 3 Flight Engineers, 12 Flight Despatchers and 18 Cabin Crew members of Ariana Afghan Airlines as also their Engineering and Ground Service personnel. One of the Cabin Crew Members was also trained as an Instructor. Air-India also provided maintenance support for the 3 A 300 B4 aircraft.

(c) and (d): Yes, Sir. A four party Agreement between the Government of India, Air-India, Transitional Islamic Government of Afghanistan and Ariana Afghan Airlines was entered on September 2, 2002. In accordance with this Agreement, Air-India handed over 3 A 300 B4 aircraft along with basic support spares valued approx. USD 1,000,000. As per the above Agreement, Air-India also provided training to their personnel as well as maintenance support to the 3 Airbus A 300 B4 aircraft.