

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1115  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003  
BILATERAL AVIATION AGREEMENTS  
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have concluded a series of bilateral aviation agreements with foreign carriers on the basis of perfect reciprocity;
- (b) if so, whether Thai Airways has been permitted to operate from Chennai and Bangalore using wide bodied Aircraft;
- (c) if so, whether this would be detrimental to the business prospects of IA-AI particularly in the said sector; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the National flag carriers of the country?

**Answer**

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

(a):Bilateral air service negotiations are concluded on the basis of balance of advantage and reciprocity to either side. Besides factors like tourism promotion, facilitation of commerce and trade, improving air connectivity of India with rest of the world, commercial advantage to the national carriers are taken into account before concluding such agreements.

(b):During the last round of bilateral civil aviation consultations between India and Thailand, it has been decided inter alia that the designated airlines of Thailand will be entitled to operate 4 frequencies/1220 seats per week to/from both Chennai and Bangalore with effect from winter, 2003 and summer, 2004 respectively. They can also operate another frequency/305 seats each to/from Bangalore and Chennai with effect from winter, 2004.

(c) and (d):No, Sir. Reciprocal enhancement in capacity has also been granted to Air India and Indian Airlines for operation to Thailand. Besides, the operations of the designated airlines of Thailand to Chennai and Bangalore will be subject to Commercial Agreement with the designated airlines of India. Designated airline of India will also be able to sell seats with its own flight number to USA from Bangalore and Chennai on the flights of Thai Airways. This will expand the network of designated airline of India.