

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1442
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
EMPLOYEES- AIRCRAFT RATIO
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India has a huge surplus manpower in terms of employees per aircraft;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the ratio among the other foreign airlines; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to streamline the employees as per the aircraft ratio?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) and (c): The employee to aircraft ratio in Air India is 385. Though data with reference to other foreign airlines is not maintained, the employee to aircraft ratio is comparatively higher in comparison to other airlines. While most of the airlines all over the world undertake maintenance jobs to a limited extent only and outsource major maintenance ground handling, passenger/cargo handling etc., Air India undertakes all these activities completely inhouse and also performs all ground handling functions for a number of foreign airlines.

Air India has, however, taken a number of steps in order to reduce its staff strength which include

- (i) freeze on external recruitment in non-operational categories;
- (ii) reduction of staff strength at foreign station;
- (iii) redeployment/ relocation of staff from non-operational to operational categories;
- (iv) introduction of voluntary retirement scheme;
- (v) reversion of retirement age from 60 to 58 years; and
- (vi) outsourcing of non-core activities and establishment of subsidiary companies.