

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2387  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005  
OPERATION COST OF I.A. AND A.I.  
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a): whether there is an overlapping of operations of Indian Airlines (I.A.) and Air India (A.I.) on some international routes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its justification thereof;
- (c) the recommendations of the Committee set up to rationalize the routes between the two carriers; and
- (d) the details of the action taken to minimize operational cost and make these Corporations competitive and operate on commercial basis?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. There is an overlapping of operations of Indian Airlines and Air India on India-Gulf and South-East countries routes. The overlap between the international operations of both the carriers, however, complement each other's operations on common sectors increasing the Indian presence and the market share in the international market to/from India.

(c): In the year 2003, a Committee was set up in this Ministry to examine the issue of route rationalization between Air India and Indian Airlines. The Committee took note of a Memorandum of Understanding between Air India and Indian Airlines on rationalization of routes.

(d): Both the airlines have been introducing various sales and marketing measures to improve its market share and overall performance like Fleet augmentation/renewals, marketing initiatives, in-flight activities, service upgrades on ground, comprehensive budgetary control system, cost control and economy measures etc.