

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a)
No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Overhead costs of Air India

2592. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India (AI) has the highest monthly expenditure of Rs.1750 crores which is very high when compared to other private airlines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 30 per cent of Air India flights are filled with its employees whom Air India is giving complementary passes;

(c) what are the other benefits given to the employees of Air India; and

(d) how Air India is planning bring down its overhead costs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a)
The average monthly expenditure of Air India before Depreciation and obsolescence is approximately Rs.1500 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The facilities being presently provided to the employees of Air India are medical benefits for self and family, subsidized canteen facilities, staff housing colonies/company lease, Community Centre, Holiday Homes, Long Service mementos, Passages and subsidized transport facility.

Similarly, the employees are provided the facilities of free passages, medical benefits for self and family, use of holiday Homes after retirement.

(d) Initiatives undertaken to bring down the overhead costs include rationalization of routes, and of future aircraft deliveries, return of leased aircraft, rationalization of manpower costs and reduction of contractual employment, establishment of International Advisory Board, reconstitution of Board and senior management, constitution of a turnaround committee to look at all areas of cost reduction, closure of offline offices and reduction of employees at foreign stations.

Linking of airports in Punjab

2593. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to link big airport in Punjab with minor civil airports and defence airports and strips to facilitate air travel in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State Government is required to provide infrastructure and other facilities for the purpose; and

(c) the present status of the arrangement proposed to be made by the Centre with the assistance of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a)
to (c) Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation