

Resentment over appointment of COO by AI Express

785. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India employees have expressed resentment over the appointment of the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Air India (AI) Express; and

(b) whether the COO's credential and integrity have been ascertained before appointment and how this appointment is expected to help the Air India turn around?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A Panel was constituted by Air India Management for selection of COO-AICL from the open market. After considerable discussions and deliberations of the Committee, his appointment was finalised. The COO-AICL is required to play a critical role in working with the management and stake holders to strategise and effectively operationalise the transformation plan.

Arrears payable to AAI by airlines

786. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated arrears payable by each airline to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) on account of landing, parking charges etc. as on 31 March, 2010; and

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure that the concerned airlines not only clear their arrears but also they do not default payment in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Details of arrears payable by major airlines to Airports Authority India (AAI) as on 31st March, 2010 are as under (Amount in Rs. Crores):

- (i) National Carrier: 1. Indian Airlines - 312.35, 2. Air India - 192.95, 3. Alliance Air - 29.82. Total -535.12.
- (ii) Private Domestic Airlines: 1. Go Airlines - 6.17, 2. Indigo - 3.04, 3. Jet Airways - 29.91, 4. Jet Lite (India) Ltd. -11.91, 5. Kingfisher Airlines -100.60, 6. Spice Jet Ltd. - 7.13, 7. Other Domestic Airlines - 49.41. Total - 208.17.
- (ii) Foreign Airlines: 1. Air Arabia - 2.55, 2. Air France -1.48, 3. Biman Bangla Desh - 0.83, 4. British Airways - 4.62, 5. Cathay Pacific - 2.50, 6. Emirates - 9.32, 7. Etihad - 2.32, 8. Gulf Air - 4.27, 9. Kuwait Airways - 0.57, 10. Lufthansa - 3.92, 11. Oman Air - 0.95, 12. Qantas - 0.88, 13. Singapore Airlines - 5.23, 14. Srilankan Airlines - 6.01, 15. Thai Airways - 5.69, 16. Other Foreign Airlines -112.33. Total - 163.48.

TOTAL: (A+B+C) = 906.76.