

(b) whether now the Management of Air India Charter Ltd. is recruiting cabin crews for the same work in much higher scale without considering the demand of cabin crews of Air India Charter Ltd.; and

(c) whether there is any uniform policy of recruitment as Air India and Air India Charter Ltd. are Central Public Sector, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No Airline Attendant (AA) working with Air India Charter Limited (AICL) has completed 7 years of service. The total starting emoluments payable to an AA is approx. Rs. 25,500/- per month, based on 60 hours of flying per month will get Rs. 40,000/- after implementation of the recent wage revision of AAs.

(b) AICL is not carrying out any recruitment exercise for AAs for Air India Express at present as there is already a wait list of selected candidates available, who, on appointment will draw emoluments at par with the present AICL Cabin Crew.

(c) AICL is a subsidiary company of Air India and its recruitment procedure is different from that of the parent Company, as both operate on different business models.

Services from Kerala to Middle East

334. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India services from Kerala to Middle East are cancelled frequently in the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the bigger aircrafts are replaced with smaller ones in the above sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Effective November, 2010, Air India Express started with curtailed scheduled operations due to cabin crew shortage. However, the flights were restored in phased manner and full schedule was once again effective from 14.02.2011.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. On the contrary Air India upgraded its aircraft between 15.06.2011 and 15.09.2011 on Kozhikode - Sharjah and v.v. route and kozhikode-Dubai and v.v. route in order to cater to increased demand of the festive season of Ramada and Onam.

Mismanagement in purchase of Airbus

335. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBI has detected mismanagement in purchase of Airbus plane between Air India and Airbus companies;
- (b) if so, whether any complaint have been registered and to whom;
- (c) the status of those complaints; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) CBI has registered a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) on 14.01.2010[†] to investigate into one of the agreements signed by erstwhile Indian Airlines for purchase of 43 new A320 family aircraft from Airbus Industrie. The investigation is still in progress.

Reform and recruitment drive by DGCA

336. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has embarked on a reform and recruitment drive;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons thereof;
- (c) the timeline for implementation of the reforms; and
- (d) whether any delays have been encountered so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of the rapid growth in the Indian civil Aviation sector and consequent increase in the workload of the organization. A total of 427 Group 'A' and 48 Group 'B' posts were created in May, 2009. Recruitment to these posts is expected to be completed in phased manner by 30.04.2012. The delay, if any, in recruitment process is due to the involvement of various agencies viz., Department of Personnel and Training (DoP&T), Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Ministry of Law.

Connectivity to Surat

†337. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on any plan with a view to connect Surat with different metros of the country by air route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal in this regard;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.