(c) and (d) No such assessment has been made by the Govt. in this regard. However, sourcing of ATF through direct import has the potential to lower the overall procurement cost of ATF as the airlines will save on VAT on ATF, which varies between 4% to 29% from State to State.

Exodus of AI Pilots

327. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an exodus of pilots from Air India to low cost carriers due to delayed salaries; and

(b) if so, the urgent steps the Ministry is taking to keep the flock together and keep the national carrier going high in the sky?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Amount due to Air India by Government

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government owes Rs. 110 crores to Air India for VVIP flights;

(b) if so, the details of the flights undertaken by VVIPs for various destinations; and

(c) by when the aforesaid amount of dues would be made available to ailing Air India to help the carrier to come out of the red zone?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Air India operates VVIP flights/evacuation flights as per requests received from Ministry' of External Affairs (for the Vice-President), Ministry of Defence (for the President) and Prime Minister's Office (for the Prime Minister). As on 7th March, 2012, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Prime Minister's Office owed Air India an amount of Rs. 274.17 crores.

(c) The Government has been making payments to Air India after verifying their bills and as soon as funds are available in the appropriate budget heads of the respective Ministries/Offices.

Revival process of Air India

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

(a) the reasons that the Ministry is delaying the revival process of Air India;

(b) the decision the Ministry has taken on the delivery of 787 Dreamliners,