

In order to reduce costs and improve operational performance, Air India has taken various steps such as: (i) Complete route rationalization of erstwhile Air India and Indian Airlines routes and elimination of route network involving parallel operations; (ii) Rationalization of certain loss making routes; (iii) induction of brand new aircraft on several domestic and international routes to increase passengers appeal; (iv) Phasing out of old fleet and consequential reduction in maintenance cost; (v) Return of leased aircraft at the end of their tenure or prematurely; (vi) Freezing of employment in non-operational areas; (vii) Redeployment of staff to cut in-fractionous expenditure; (viii) Grounding of ageing fleet including B747-400 which would be used only for certain lines of operations and for operating VVIP flights; (ix) Relocation of EDs/IBOs from abroad back to India; (x) Closure of overseas offline offices at certain locations; (xi) Dismantling of the Frankfurt hub and establishment of the Delhi hub resulting in substantial saving due to restructuring of routes; (xii) Establishment of Integrated Operations Control Centres.

#### **Modernization of Kolkata and Chennai airports**

936. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of expenditure already incurred by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in the latest modernization/renovation projects in Kolkata and Chennai airports; and
- (b) the time-frame for completion of the projects at both Kolkata and Chennai airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The expenditure incurred on the modernization of Chennai airport upto July, 2012 is Rs. 1754.31 crores against the project cost Rs. 2015 crores and in respect of Kolkata airport, the expenditure is Rs. 1998 crores against the project cost of Rs. 2325 crores.

(b) These two projects are complete. The Domestic and International Terminal buildings at Chennai airport are likely to be commissioned by September, 2012 and the new Integrated Terminal at NSCBI Airport, Kolkata will be commissioned by October, 2012.

#### **Funds earmarked for SCSP and TSP**

937. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds earmarked for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) during last three financial years as per the guidelines issued by Planning Commission *vide* its letter dated 26 December, 2006;
- (b) if no such funds were earmarked during the last three years the reasons therefor;