

12. Air India has withdrawn 5 domestic and 7 international routes during the last two year which have not been able to recover the ATF costs/Cash cost of operations and were not of strategic importance in domestic and international sectors.
13. Wage negotiation after implementation of Dharmadhikari Committee report is underway.
14. Air India is also in the process of monetization of some of its assets.

New air routes/airports in Himalayan Region

139. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes to open new air routes and new airports/heliports in Himalayan areas of Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur; and

(b) the details of existing air routes and quantum of air flights and passenger traffic annually in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA): (a) Government of India has promulgated a policy for establishment of new greenfield Airports/heliports in the country in 2008. Airports Authority of India (AAI) is constructing a new airport in Pakyong in Sikkim. Work is also in progress for operationalization of Tezu airport in Arunachal Pradesh for ATR type of aircraft operation. There is a proposal to develop a new Greenfield airport at Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh by AAI. Government of India does not have schemes for helipads in these areas. Helipads in these areas are mainly constructed by State Governments.

(b) Helicopter routes namely India valley, Juliet Valley, Kilo Valley, Mima Valley, Mike Valley, November Valley, Tenga Valley, Bhutan Valley for VFR operations have been established in Arunachal Pradesh. In Uttarakhand helicopters are operated at the behest of State Government from Phata to Kedarnathji temple on seasonal basis in May-June and September- October every year.

Existing Air Routes for fixed wing operations are: (1) W85 connecting Dehradun- Pant Nagar- Lucknow (2) W55 Connecting Agartala-Silchar-Imphal-Dimapur (3) W83 connecting Lengpui-Imphal (4) W54 connecting Agartala-Imphal. There is no scheduled flight operating to/ from Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim at present. Quantum of air flights movements and passengers traffic annually (2013-14) is as under:

State	Airport	Aircraft Movement	Passengers
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	4078	306832
	Pantnagar	34	114
Nagaland	Dimapur	804	60182
Manipur*	Imphal	5344	628766

*Including four International movements with 590 passengers.

Market share of Air India in Middle East

140. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the impact on Air India (AI) on the decision taken by the Ministry to give 11,000 seats per week to Dubai;

(b) whether this would erode AI's market share in the Middle East; and

(c) how Ministry is planning to protect the AI's interests in view of the above decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA): (a) Additional traffic rights of 11000 seats per week was enhanced for the designated carriers of India and Dubai for operation on India - Dubai Sectors. Air India has also requested to grant additional traffic rights of 3906 seats per week from the above enhanced seats effective Winter Schedule 2014-15.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per policy, due consideration is given to the operational plans of Air India before allocating traffic rights to other eligible schedule carriers. Hence, Air India is also benefitting from the enhanced traffic rights on India - Dubai Sector. The decision has been arrived at in consultation with all Indian carriers including Air India.

Setting up of heliports in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai

†141. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for setting up of heliports in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.