

Air India offices abroad

†824. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries in the world from where Air India has no flight service but it has offices there;

(b) the details of amount that Government spends on those offices every year; and

(c) whether the Ministry is considering to close such offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The following are the details where Air India has no flights , but Air India incurred the following expenditure for maintaining the offices at these stations (for Financial Year 2013-14).

(₹ in lakhs)

| Country | Station | Amount |
|-------------|-------------|--------|
| America | Washington | 356.97 |
| America | Los Angeles | 209.01 |
| Canada | Toronto | 647.75 |
| Netherlands | Amsterdam | 184.81 |
| Egypt | Cairo | 12.86 |
| Iran | Tehran | 20.04 |
| Switzerland | Zurich | 202.44 |
| Austria | Vienna | 77.07 |
| Bangladesh | Chittagong | 8.92 |

(c) Details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Action taken by Air India for closing/down sizing of booking offices*

The action for closing down/down sizing AI booking offices has already been taken/initiated at the following stations:.

- (a) **Zurich** : AI booking office closed effective 1st Oct., 2014. Air India generated ₹ 1772.21 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.
- (b) **Chittagong** : AI booking office closed effective 20th Nov., 14. Air India generated ₹ 212.41 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.
- (c) **Vienna** : AI booking office closed effective 30th Nov., 14. Air India generated ₹ 2479.53 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.
- (d) **Cairo and Tehran** : A Committee comprising of Regional Manager-Gulf, ME & Africa and Regional Finance Manager is in the process. of taking action towards closure of Cairo and Tehran offices. Air India generated ₹ 58.56 lacs from Cairo Office and ₹ 138.75 lacs from Tehran Office as revenue during 2013-14.
- (e) **Toronto** : A committee has been constituted to address the issues of downsizing of Toronto station. - The one process is now in the final stages. Air India generated ₹ 6711.57 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.

America Region

- (1) **Los Angeles** : Air India has an office at Las Angeles since March, 1958. Las Angeles became an offline station in September, 2008 . The office has been shifted to the new premises with effect from 01 June 2014. The currnnt rent of the premises is USD 1474.20 per month. Air India earlier had office premises with a monthly rent of 1974.78. Shifting the office to the new premises has achieved substantial savings. In view of the substantial revenues being generated and code-share agreements with M/s. Singapore Air lines and Malaysian Airlines, the AI office is being retained at Las Angeles. Air India generated ₹ 11645.17 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.
- (2) **Washington** : Air India has an office in Washington since March, 1961. Washington was an online station till July 2010. The office has been shifted to the new premises with effect from 01 January, 2015. The current rent of the premises is USD 249.5.

Air India earlier had office premises with a monthly rent of USD 4542 plus USD 500 for parking space. Shifting the office to the new premises has achieved substantial savings. Further, Washington is a very important station as it is a capital city of United States of America. This station largely caters to the needs of ticketing of GOI/MEA officials. Over 90% of the AI Booking office sales pertain to GOI/MEA ticketing from the Embassies/Consul General offices, etc. In view of the importance of the station and the revenue generated from this station, the AI office is being retained at Washington. Air India generated ₹ 19040.14 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.

Europe Region

- (1) **Amsterdam:** Air India has an office in Amsterdam since 1962. The office has recently been shifted to the new premises with effect from 14th February, 2014. The current rent of the premises is Euro 1520. Air India earlier had office Premises with a monthly rent of Euro 3611.33. Shifting the office to the new premises has thus achieved substantial savings. In view of the fact that Air India has code-share flights with M/s. Lufthansa on the sector Frankfurt/Amsterdam/Frankfurt, the AI office is being retained at Amsterdam. Air India generated ₹ 1919.51 lacs revenue during 2013-14 from this office.

Need of trained professionals for CSR activities

825. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of huge demand of trained Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) professionals from the corporate and other sectors to implement CSR projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) has launched or proposes to launch a certificate programme in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR); and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The advocacy programmes for CSR undertaken by the Indian Institute of Corporate