

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The Port Blair airport belongs to Indian Navy, Ministry of Defence and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains only a Civil Enclave at this airport. There are restrictions of flight schedules/timings at Civil Enclaves maintained by AAI at Defence airports and Air Traffic Services are not provided by Indian Navy at this airport after sunset. Further, no request for night operations at Port Blair Airport has been received from the airline operators.

Servicing of AI aircrafts abroad

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

(a) whether it is a fact that servicing of the aircrafts of the Air India is done abroad inspite of the availability of technologically advanced aircraft service centres in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of aircrafts serviced abroad during the last two years and the expenses incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR MAHESH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. Air India aircraft are serviced in-house and are not serviced abroad.

However, only the transit certification of aircraft has been outsourced by Air India at all the foreign stations to save cost.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Monetization of surplus land assets by AI

9. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India (AI) which has been under financial stress for several years, has now been planning to monetize its surplus land assets to reduce its mounting debts;

(b) whether Air India has tied up with National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) to develop its properties under a profit making mechanism; and

(c) if so, details of the projects taken up jointly by Air India and NBCC for the purpose?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Recently, Air India has signed an MoU with NBCC to develop its land parcels, on Joint Venture (JV) basis.

(c) At present only one property *i.e.* a plot of land at Laxmi House, Chennai is identified to be developed on JV basis.

Guidelines for regulating national services

†10. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the guidelines prescribed for regulating national services;
- (b) whether public/private airlines follow these guidelines while operating on these routes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof particularly in respect of the States of Delhi, Punjab and Maharashtra, route-wise and Statewise; and
- (d) if not, the action taken by Government against the airline companies that do not follow these guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Though, domestic air transport services in the country have been deregulated, Government has however laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) with a view to achieve better connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability, subject to compliance of RDGs. As per the RDGs, all Scheduled Airlines who operate on Category-I routes are required to deploy 10% of the capacity deployed on these routes, on Category-II routes which connect stations in North East region, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep. Further, at least 10% of the capacity required to be deployed on Category-II routes is to be deployed for connectivity exclusively within these regions (Category-II A routes). They are also required to deploy at least 500/0 of the capacity deployed on Category-I routes to remaining routes *i.e.* Category III route.

(b) to (d) All scheduled domestic airlines are complying with RDGs issued by the Government. RDG compliance is ensured route category-wise and not state-wise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.