

**Impact of delays and cancellations on AI**

\*228. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delays and cancellations weigh down Air India (AI), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how does the Ministry plan to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) and (b) Air India endeavours to minimize the delays and cancellations of flights to avoid inconvenience to the passengers. Air India has shown improvement in the On Time Performance (OTP). The overall Network OTP achieved during the current financial year upto June 2015, is 79% as compared to 68.2% in 2011-12. The OTP of Air India being a network carrier compares favorably with other Star Alliance members.

To improve the OTP, regular OTP Review Meetings are being held at Senior Management Level of Air India since February 2015. Each Regional Executive Director has been made accountable for improvement in OTP in his respective region.

Air India is recruiting additional Cabin and Cockpit Crew to create buffer for additional availability of flying Crew. Air India has already recruited 75 Pilots and 534 candidates have been selected for appointment as Cabin Crew as part of this exercise. Government has sanctioned External Commercial Borrowings of \$300 million to ensure better maintenance and improved availability of aircraft which will improve OTP.

**Delay in setting up of INDU**

\*229. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Defence University (INDU) still remains a dream after it was first mooted almost 50 years back, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the INDU Project has not moved after its foundation stone was laid in May, 2013 and the Ministry of Finance is yet to approve the initial cost of ₹ 395 crore, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) In 2010, Government accorded in principle approval for setting up of Indian National Defence University (INDU) at Binola, Gurgaon, Haryana at a cost of ₹ 395 crore. In 2012, Land has been acquired by the Government of Haryana and handed over to Ministry of Defence for this purpose. The Foundation Stone of INDU was laid on