

1	2	3	4
29.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun, Pant Nagar	2
30.	West Bengal	Bagdogra, Kolkata	2
<b>Union Territories</b>			
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	1
2.	Lakshadweep Islands	Agatti	1
3.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	
5.	Daman and Diu	Diu	1
Number of cities connected by scheduled domestic carriers			75

#### **Grounding of commercial pilots**

658. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of commercial pilots were grounded recently by various airlines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, airlines-wise;

(c) whether grounding of commercial pilots adversely affected the operations of flights, particularly Air India and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how the airlines, particularly Air India, managed the commercial pilots shortage due to suspension of commercial pilots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) DGCA has grounded 137 commercial pilots in the year 2016 for involvement in accident/incident and safety violations. In Air India Express, only one commercial pilot was grounded in the past one year.

(c) and (d) The total number of pilots who may be grounded/suspended due to above reasons at any point of time is catered for. Air India has sufficient number of pilots to maintain scheduled operations.

#### **Measures to establish Air India as the most preferred airlines**

659. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether net losses of Air India have reduced to about 12 per cent during the year 2014-15, passenger revenue increased by 9.2 per cent and cargo revenue

increased by 26 per cent besides substantial improvements in operational and functional performance, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what further measures are being taken to make Air India profitable and should one expect that by 2016-17 the official carrier will post profit at par with other private airlines and there would be an overall improvement in its functional and operational performance; and

(c) what other professional measures have been introduced or contemplated to establish Air India as the most preferred airline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Air India Limited has improved its performance in the FY 2014-15 as compared to the previous year. There have also been improvements in Passenger Revenue and Cargo Revenue earnings as compared to the previous year.

A brief synopsis of the achievements in Financial and Operational performance in FY 2014-15 as compared to FY 2013-14 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) In view of the losses suffered by Air India up to 2010-11 and its mounting debt burden, Government had approved a Turnaround Plan (TAP)/Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) for operational and financial turnaround of Air India. The TAP/FRP provides equity infusion of ₹ 30231 crores upto 2021 subject to achievement of certain milestones as laid down in the TAP/FRP.

The Company has achieved the Targets set out in the TAP milestones, and has made substantial progress in both Operational as well as Financial Areas.

As a part of the Turnaround Strategy for Air India Ltd., the company with the overall support of the Government has initiated a number of steps in order to cut costs and losses. These steps, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) Route rationalization of *erstwhile* AI and IA route and elimination of route network involving parallel operations.
- (ii) Rationalization of certain loss making routes.
- (iii) Phasing out of old fleet and consequential reduction in maintenance cost.
- (iv) Joining of Star Alliance.
- (v) Enhanced utilization of new fleet resulting in production of higher Available Seat Kilometers (ASKMs).
- (vi) Closure of overseas offline offices at certain locations.

- (vii) Introduction of PSS (Passenger Service System) to have single code and SAP ERP based solutions throughout the organization in terms of increase in revenue and decrease in cost.
- (viii) Upgradation of IT infrastructure and implementation of Quick Win IT solution.

These steps have enabled Air India Ltd. to earn, an operating profit of ₹ 105.00 crore in 2015-16 as compared to the operating loss of ₹ 2636.18 crore in the previous year. Net loss has also reduced from ₹ 5859.91 crore in 2014-15 to ₹ 3836.78 crore in 2015-16, thereby reducing the net loss by 34.5%.

Further, in view of the improvements in performance registered by Air India in 2014-15 and 2015-16 with the continued support of the Government and also due to the changed aviation environment such as drop in fuel rates, exchange rates variation etc., improved performance of Air India Ltd. is expected in the future also.

### ***Statement***

*Details of achievements in Financial and Operational Performance in  
FY 2014-15 as compared to FY 2013-14*

Financial Performance	2013-14	2014-15	% Improvement
	(₹ in crores)		over 2013-14
Passenger Revenue	14150.73	15793.26	11.61
Cargo Revenue	1065.91	1155.03	8.36
Operating Revenue	18370.96	19801.71	7.79
Operating Expenses	22348.85	22437.89	(0.40)
Operating Profit/(Loss)	(3977.89)	(2636.18)	33.73
Total Revenue	20140.59	20606.27	2.31
Total Expenses	26420.19	26466.17	(0.17)
After Tax	(6279.60)	(5859.90)	6.68
Operational Performance	2013-14	2014-15	% Improvement
			over 2013-14
ASKms (Million)	45428.000	48859.070	7.55
RPKms (Million)	33279.000	35999.770	8.18
Passenger LF (%)	73.3	73.7	0.61
No. of Rev Passengers (Million)	15.43	16.88	9.40