

(c) and (d) The matter is presently *subjudice* before the High Court of Goa.

**Protection of interest of Air India employees**

1799. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA:

SHRI HARIVANSH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of private companies have expressed their interest in taking over Air India;

(b) if so, the names of these companies;

(c) what is the present status of disinvestment in Air India; and

(d) by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard, and the details of the steps being taken to protect the interests of employees working therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Indigo airline has submitted an expression of interest in this regard.

(c) and (d) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 28.06.2017, has given in-principle approval for considering strategic disinvestment of Air India and its five subsidiaries and constitution of Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM). The AISAM will decide further course of action including protection of interest of employees.

**Restructuring of long term loans of Air India**

1800. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government decided to privatise Air India and five of its subsidiaries, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that Air India has turned around now but because of heavy debt burden and higher interest rate, it is in financial difficulty;