

Many queries received for Air India stake sale: Disinvestment Secretary

OUR BUREAU

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The Centre has received "lot of queries" from both airlines and non-airlines for the proposed privatisation of national carrier Air India.

"There have been several queries — both from airlines and non-airlines," Neeraj Kumar Gupta, Secretary, Department of Investment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM), told reporters on the sidelines of an Assocham-organised conference on private equity and venture capital investment in the Capital.



Neeraj Kumar Gupta,
Disinvestment Secretary

Earlier, in his address, Gupta said there are no restrictions on private equity and venture funds from participat-

ing in strategic divestments like Air India. "Venture funds can always tie up with technical partners to bid. All that is required is meeting the net worth criteria," Gupta said.

The expression of interest documents do not explicitly prohibit venture funds and there should be no impression that they cannot participate, he added.

Gupta highlighted that India was the fastest growing large economy and continues to be an attractive destination for foreign investments.