

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1335

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006

COMMERCIAL PILOTS IN INDIA .

Jindal Shri Naveen;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Reddy Shri Karunakara G.;Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the pilot-flight ratio in India is as per the international approved ceiling;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian civil aviation industry is reeling under shortage of commercial pilots;
- (d) if so, the total number of qualified commercial pilots in India, at present; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to meet the requirement of commercial pilots?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL )

(a) and (b):- Yes, Sir. In line with standard practices of international operation and recommendations of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) on 01.03.1994, which stipulates requirement of sufficient number of flight crew but not less than three sets of crew per aircraft for scheduled operations. This CAR also stipulates that all aircraft engaged in Scheduled Public Transport operations should be flown by at least two pilots.

(c):- Due to the growth in the aviation sector there is an increase in the number of scheduled and non scheduled operators with many of them going in for a fleet expansion programme. This has manifested in shortage of type rated pilots.

(d):- As on date there are 3850 active professional pilots having Commercial Pilot Licence and Airlines Transport Pilot Licence.

(e):- The Government has taken various steps to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled pilots. These include conditionally increasing the age-limit to 65 years for exercising the privileges of their licences for commercial transport operations under prescribed conditions for pilots, upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enhance its training capacity, setting up of a world class flying training institute at Gondia, Maharashtra and assistance to flying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.