

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2490  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007  
IAF PILOTS IN CIVIL AVIATION  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether assistance is being taken from the Indian Air Force (IAF) to meet the shortage of pilots in the field of Civil Aviation;
- (b) if so, whether any agreement is being arrived at between the Civil Aviation Ministry and the IAF;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): The Indian Air Force (IAF) has agreed to allow officers in the age group of 54 years and above to join the national carrier. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between IAF and Air India on 05.04.2007. This is to facilitate a second career option to the retiring IAF officers and also reduce the requirement of expatriate pilots for the national career. The first batch of 13 IAF sponsored pilots has been sent for the required testing.