

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5604

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2010

SHORTAGE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Singh Shri Bhola;Venugopal Shri K. C.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) working at the airports in the country at present;
- (b) whether there is shortage of ATCs against the sanctioned/estimated strength;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of ATC posts lying vacant and the period of pendency;
- (e) the reasons for not filling up these vacant posts;
- (f) the steps taken by the NACIL to fully strengthen the ATC wing at the Airports; and
- (g) the impact of shortage of ATCs on the growing operation of air traffic?

Answer

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

(a): 1592.

(b), (c), (d) & (e): As on date, 515 Air Traffic Controllers` (ATCO) posts are vacant as against 2107 sanctioned posts. This comprises 1 post of GM, 47 posts of Jt. GM/DGM, 213 posts of Managers, 3 posts of Assistant Manager and 251 posts of Junior Executives. These posts became available over the years due to creation / retirement/ esignation, etc. There has been some delays in the recruitment process due to administrative difficulties. The promotion vacancies are lying vacant due to non-availability of eligible candidates in the feeder grades.

(f): Not applicable.

(g): (i) Constraints in providing extended ATC watch hours at airports where limited personnel are available.

(ii) Leave requirements are not accommmodated adequately.