

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3140

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2010

SHORTAGE OF TRAINED PILOTS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab; Sardinha Shri Francisco; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of trained pilots in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has decided to scrap the norms that mandated domestic airlines to have at least one Indian pilot inside an aircraft cockpit;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to meet the shortage of pilots?

Answer

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

(a): There is no shortage of pilots in the country, however there is shortage of Type rated Commanders with Airline operators. To overcome this shortage, Airline operators are permitted to utilize expatriate Pilots upto 31.07.2011 subject to validation of their foreign licence by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(b) and (c): There are no such norms that mandate domestic airlines to have at least one Indian Pilot inside an aircraft cockpit.

(d): In order to have sufficient quality pilots over longer period of time, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) has been modernised through upgradation of civil and electrical infrastructure and acquisition of additional trainer aircraft. The Government has also set up National Flying Training Institute at Gondia in Maharashtra as Joint Venture Enterprise. The other flying clubs in the country are also supported by the Central Government by way of providing funds for acquisition of trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation and Aero Club of India.