

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:219  
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012  
EMPLOYEES TO AIRCRAFT RATIO  
Pathak Shri Harin

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

- (a) the employees to aircraft ratio in Air India (AI) at present;
- (b) whether the ratio is considered satisfactory in relation to the operational network of the airlines and also international standards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is a shortage of airlines staff throughout the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of staff?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a)to(f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTs (a),(b),(c),(d),(e) and (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.219 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2012 REGARDING EMPLOYEES TO AIRCRAFT RATIO

(a): The employees to aircraft ratio in Air India are 258.

(b)and(c): There is no international benchmarking for an ideal aircraft to employee ratio. The Aircraft to employee ratio varies from airline to airline depending upon the nature and extent of functions performed in-house. Most of the airlines have outsourced a number of their functions whereas in case of Air India most of the functions are being performed in-house. The approximate employees to aircraft ratio in Jet Airways is 150, 111 in Kingfisher, 118 in SpiceJet, 185 in Go Air and 102 in Indigo. Even in the international airlines, the ratio varies greatly as in case of Lufthansa, it is 202, British Airways 169, Cathay Pacific Airways 138, Air France 408.

(d),(e)and(f): No, shortage of airlines staff in the country is reported. However, there is a shortage of pilots in the Commander category. In order to meet the shortage of pilots in the Commander category, DGCA has allowed hiring of expat pilots till 2013. In the meantime, airlines have been asked to make adequate arrangements in order to train co-pilots to attain minimum standard to become Commanders.