

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3357  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012  
FOREIGN PILOTS  
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the domestic airlines have requested the DGCA to increase the contract of foreign pilots;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of foreign pilots employed in India by various Air companies;
- (d) whether the present recession in the aviation sector has restricted the opportunities of Indian pilots to get training and improve their skill; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to appoint trained Indian pilots in place of foreign pilots and the time-limit fixed for the same?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (b): Yes Madam. To cover the shortage of type rated commanders, Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) policy has been reviewed. Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) policy provides for extension up to 31st December 2013 on case to case basis.

(c): The detail of foreign pilots employed by various air companies is at Annexure 'A'.

(d): Training of Pilots is prerogative of airlines concerned. However, the pilots holding the licences are required to undergo training in accordance with the Aircraft Rules 1937 and Schedule II thereof, to maintain validity of their licences.

(e): Indian pilots who are inducted by Airlines and are eligible to become Pilot-in- Command as per the policy of Airlines are trained by them to phase out expat pilots. As a follow up, the cases of Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) pilots are processed on the basis of information furnished by each Airline with phase out programme of expat pilots. Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) policy provides for extension up to 31st December 2013 on case to case basis.

Annexure 'A'

Details of Foreign Pilots employed by Aviation Companies as on date are given below:

Sr. No. Name of Operator No. of Foreign Pilots

1. Air India 14
2. Kingfisher Airlines 15
3. Jet Airways 183
4. Spice Jet 88
5. Blue Dart 07
6. Go Airlines 03
- 7 Indigo Airlines 90
8. Alliance Air 07
9. Non Scheduled Operators 90

Total 497