

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1254
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009
INCREASE IN DEMAND OF PILOTS
Joshi Shri Mahesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the need for pilots in the near future in the wake of rapid growth of aviation industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken being taken in order to meet the demand of the pilots in the country?

Answer

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

(a) and (b):- There is no shortage of pilots. The requirement of trained pilots is a dynamic phenomenon depending on airline operations and type of aircraft used.

(c):- In order to have desired quality and number of pilots over a long period, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) has been modernised through upgradation of infrastructure and providing funds for additional trainer aircraft to increase its annual capacity from forty to hundred cadets. A world-class flying training institute at Gondia in Maharashtra has been set up with capacity to train 110 candidates annually which include 10 candidates for Commercial Helicopter Pilot Licence training. Other flying clubs are also supported by Government by providing trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation and Aero-Club of India. Further, Helicopter Licence holders have also been allowed to convert their helicopter licence to Commercial Pilot Licence (aeroplane) by doing 100 hours conversion flying.