

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2693

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

MISMANAGEMENT OF PILOTS .

Abdulrahman Shri ;Kumar Shri P.;Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala ;Sugavanam Shri E.G.;Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is under utilisation and mismanagement of pilots in Air India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that some pilots fly over 90 hours while there are many who fly around 30 hours a month and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some zones are facing shortage of pilots whereas some zones are having excess pilots and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether cases of violation of weekly rest norms of pilots by Air India have come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details as well as the action taken in this regard; and;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for effective utilisation of the services of pilots?;

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): No, Madam. However, due to grounding of six B787 aircrafts, the pilots who were flying these aircraft are under-utilized for the time being.
- (b): No Madam. There are occasions when a pilot flies less hours in a month owing to justifiable reasons. However, such a Pilot is detailed for more flying in the subsequent months. Similarly, a Pilot who had flown more hours than the basic average is utilized less in the subsequent months, so that by the end of a quarter, there is equalization of hours.
- (c): Presently, Air India has just sufficient number of Pilots to meet its schedule requirements.
- (d) : No, Madam.
- (e) : Crew route allocation is released by Air India headquarters to the regions as per the schedule prepared by its Planning Department. On the basis of this allocation, the Pilots are detailed by the regions for operation of flights taking into account the optimum utilization and equalization of flying hours. Also with a view to eliminate human interfare and subjectivity, a computerized crew management system has been started for roster duty of pilots.