

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6781
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013
SHORTAGE OF ATC OFFICERS
Ajmal Shri Badruddin

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of Air Traffic Control Officers (ATCOs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has engaged any consultancy firm to study the long term manpower requirements of ATCOs;
- (d) if so, whether the study has been completed and report submitted;
- (e) if so, the details of the report and the time by which the report is likely to be implemented; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of ATCOs in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. There is overall shortage of 1200 Controllers to meet the current as well as future requirements. The traffic growth has necessitated opening of additional Air Traffic Control (ATC) sectors/units at various Airports, additional watch to be extended beyond the normal requirements, commencement of operations at new Airports etc.

(c) & (d) : Yes, Madam. A study on long term ATC manpower requirement was carried out by Airports Authority of India (AAI) through an international consultant, `Washington Consultancy Group, USA`. The study has been completed and the report submitted in December, 2011.

(e) : The salient points/recommendations of the report are:

1. Standard staffing factor depending upon traffic density and hours of operation at all airports,
2. Dedicated departments for dealing with Strategic Airspace Management, Air Traffic Flow Management, Research & Development,
3. Establishment of International Liaison Office / Human Resource Division, and
4. Establishment of Safety Audit Office, Quality/Proficiency Check office, Flight procedure design office in each region.

The report has been examined by a Committee constituted by the AAI Board. The same requires approval of the AAI Board and no specific time frame can be given for implementation of the report.

(f): Recruitment of 200 Junior Executive (ATC) completed in 2012 out of which 187 joined. AAI Board has approved recruitment of 400 JE (ATC) per year for the next three years to meet the current and future requirements.