

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:124  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014  
HIRING OF FOREIGN PILOTS  
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) whether a large number of foreign pilots have been hired by Scheduled Indian Carriers in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with their number;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to have an adequate number of trained Indian pilots in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these foreign pilots are likely to be repatriated?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr. Mahesh Sharma)

(a) and (b) The details of the Foreign Pilots employed by Aviation Companies as on 30th June, 2014 is follows:

| Name of Operator              | No. of Foreign pilots; |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Air India                     | 13                     |
| Jet Airways                   | 146                    |
| Spice Jet                     | 08                     |
| Blue Dart                     | 05                     |
| Indigo Airlines               | 40                     |
| Alliance Air                  | 08                     |
| Non Scheduled/Other Operators | 84                     |
| Total                         | 304                    |

(c)to (d) Yes, madam. To cover the shortage of type rated pilots, validation of foreign pilots is done as per rule 45 of Aircraft Rules, 1937. Indian pilots who are inducted by airlines and are eligible to become Pilot-in-Command (PIC) as per the policy of airlines are trained by them to phase out expat pilots. As a follow up, cases of Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA) pilots are processed on the basis of information furnished by each airline and only after security clearance from MHA. The Government has restricted issue of Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation (FATA) up to 31st December, 2016.