

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 992
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2018)

FOREIGN PILOTS EMPLOYED IN VARIOUS AIRLINES IN THE COUNTRY

992. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that number of foreign pilots being employed by various airlines in the country has increased tremendously;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has assured the requirement of pilots in the country and accordingly has taken action to remain self reliant in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) & (b) The number of foreign pilots employed by various airlines has slightly increased in the current year(2018) due to induction of new type of aircraft in the fleet of some major airlines and due to growth in aviation sector. However, due to upgrading of the Indian pilots and simultaneously phasing out foreign pilots, the number of foreign pilots employed by Indian operators has not increased much. The number of foreign pilots employed by Indian operators for last five years are as follows:

Year	Foreign pilots employed by Indian operator
2014	269
2015	280
2016	378
2017	249
2018(15th Dec)	324

(c) to (e) All the Scheduled and Non-Scheduled airlines have been advised to develop their own in house strength to reduce the dependency on the foreign pilots. Airlines are required to submit their phase out plan of foreign pilots periodically. Further, the Government has extended the use of foreign pilots by Indian Carriers upto 31.12.2020 in view of shortage of type rated Pilot-in-Command/ Instructor/ Examiner in the country.
