

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1929
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7th August 2023)**

PILOT TRAINING INSTITUTES IN THE COUNTRY

1929. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM

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

- (a) the number of pilot training institutes in the country at present, among them the number of Government institutes?
- (b) whether it is a fact that candidates bear huge financial burden for getting a commercial pilot license in hand?
- (c) whether Government has done any intervention to help the pilot aspirants to get through the processes without much financial burden to enable people from all walks of life to come into this profession, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor? and
- (d) the manner in which Government is assisting the aspirants from poor families for getting license?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

- (a) Currently, there are 36 Flying Training Organisations (FTOs) in the country. Of these, 01 FTO is under the Union Government and 08 FTOs are under the State Governments.
- (b) The flying training course for getting a Commercial Pilot License (CPL) is technical/super specialised. The cost of training is determined by the following factors among others:-
 - (i) High cost of fuel (AvGas 100LL) used in aircraft.
 - (ii) Most of the aircraft used in the country for training are manufactured abroad and hence, expensive
 - (iii) High cost of aircraft spare parts.
 - (iv) Imported flight simulators for training .
- (c) & (d) The steps taken by the Government to reduce the cost for obtaining CPL are as follows:-

- (i) Ministry of Civil Aviation has approved liberalised FTO guidelines wherein the concept of airport royalty (revenue share payment by FTOs to Airports Authority of India (AAI)) has been abolished and land rentals have been significantly rationalised.
- (ii) IGST on spares for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) purposes has been reduced to 5 %.
- (iii) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) started production of AvGas at Koyali Refinery at Vadodara (Gujarat).
- (iv) A non-binding MoU has been signed between Indira Gandhri Rashtriya Udan Akademi (IGRUA) and National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) for procurement of five indigenously made Hansa NG for flying training.
- (v) In 2021 and 2022, AAI awarded fifteen FTO slots at ten airports, out of which seven FTO slots are operational. Setting up of these new FTOs will increase competition in the market.
