

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3779
(To be answered on the 23rd March 2023)**

EXPENSIVE AVIATION COURSE

3779. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that learning aviation is a very expensive course in India as compared to other fields of education and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether any efforts have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to provide civil aviation education at a budget friendly cost in the country and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) Aviation courses are highly technical/super specialised. This results in high training costs due to the following:-

(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, their cost is high.

(iii) High cost of spare parts that makes Aircraft Maintenance expensive.

(iv) Imported flight simulators for training .

(v) Regular running costs towards maintenance and operation of a Flying Training Organization (FTO).

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government to reduce the cost of civil aviation education are as follows:-

(i) Ministry of Civil Aviation has approved liberalised Flying Training Organisation (FTO) guidelines wherein the concept of airport royalty (revenue share payment by FTOs to AAI) has been abolished and land rentals have been significantly rationalised.

(ii) At present, there are 35 Flying Training Organisations (FTOs) operating at 53 bases as approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(iii) IGST on spares for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) purposes has been reduced to 5 %.

(iv) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) started production of AvGas at Koyali Refinery at Vadodara (Gujarat).

(v) 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.

In order to set up more flying training institutes in the country, in 2021, after a competitive bidding process, AAI awarded nine FTO slots at five airports at Belagavi (Karnataka), Jalgaon (Maharashtra), Kalaburagi (Karnataka), Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh) and Lilabari (Assam).

In June 2022, under second round of bidding, six FTO slots were awarded by AAI at five airports namely: two slots at Bhavnagar (Gujarat), and one each at Hubballi (Karnataka), Kadappa (Andhra Pradesh), Kishangarh (Rajasthan) and Salem (Tamil Nadu).

Creation of new FTOs will increase competition in market which is expected to influence the fee structure.
