

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**  
**Lok Sabha**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 549**  
**( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6th February 2025 )**  
**SHORTAGE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS**

**549. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether it is true that there is a shortage of Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the current sanctioned strength of ATCs and the number of vacancies till 2024;**
- (c) the impact of this shortage on air traffic management and aviation safety;**
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the said shortage, including recruitment and training initiatives;**
- (e) whether any measures are being taken to improve working conditions and reduce attrition rates among ATCs; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**  
**(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)**

**(a) to (d): The recruitment of Air Traffic Controllers (ATCOs) to ensure smooth Air Traffic Management, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), is a regular process undertaken by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) based on operational requirements at various airports.**

**The sanctioned strength of ATCOs is 5537, including the 1636 posts which have been created in the recent years, and vacancies are 1613 as on date.**

**;**

**Vacant positions are filled through direct recruitment examinations as well as departmental examinations to meet the increasing demands of the aviation sector. ATCOs are deployed at airports based on air traffic volume to ensure efficient air traffic management.**

**;**

**(e) & (f): AAI provides various incentives and perks to ATCOs including competitive salary packages, medical benefits, attractive terminal benefits, Leave travel concessions for themselves and their family members, Rating & Stress Allowance etc. Additionally, in compliance with DGCA guidelines, Watch Duty Time limitations are implemented for ATCOs and the Rating & Stress Allowance for ATCOs has been doubled, with effect from 01.10.2024.**

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