

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1968  
(To be answered on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015)**

**SHORTAGE OF PILOTS**

1968.           **SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION  
नागर विमानतल मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) Whether there is a reported shortage of Indian pilots type rated Commanders in aviation industry in the country
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) The current strength of foreign pilots in aviation industry in the country;
- (d) The number of co-pilots of upgraded as commanders during the last one year.

**ANSWER**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION  
नागर विमानतल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

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(a)-(b) There is shortage of type rated Commanders in the country due to growth in aviation industry and induction of new aircraft in the fleet of the airlines. However, sufficient numbers of Indian co-pilots are available and employed with the airlines. These co-pilots do not possess sufficient training and experience as required to become commander on that type.

To cover the shortage of type rated pilots, validation of foreign pilots is done as per rule 45 of Aircraft rules, 1937. Indian pilots which are inducted by airlines and are eligible to become Pilot-in-Command (PIC) as per the policy of airlines are being 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 Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) The detail of foreign pilots employed by various operators as on 30th September, 2015 is at Annexure 'A'.

(d) The details of number of co-pilots upgraded to commanders of scheduled airlines during the last year are at Annexure 'B'.

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**Details of Foreign Pilots employed by Aviation Companies as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2015:**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Name of Operator</b>	<b>No of Foreign Pilots</b>
1.	Air India Charters Ltd.	11
2.	Jet Airways	84
3.	Spice Jet	04
4.	Blue Dart	04
5.	Indigo Airlines	94
6.	Alliance Air	10
7.	Air Asia	07
8.	Air Costa	14
9.	TATA SIA (Vistara) Airlines	01
10.	Air Pegasus	05
11.	Go Airlines	09
12.	Air India Ltd.	Nil
13.	Non Scheduled/Other Operators	41
	<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>

## Annexure 'B'

**The details of number of Co-pilots upgraded to commanders of scheduled airlines during the last year are as follows:**

Sr. No	Name of Operator	2014		Total
		Men	Women	
1.	Air India Charters Ltd.	05	Nil	05
2.	Jet Airways	49	06	55
3.	Spice Jet	38	08	46
4.	Blue Dart	01	Nil	01
5.	Indigo Airlines	96	11	107
6.	Alliance Air	3	Nil	03
7.	Air Asia	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Air Costa	05	01	06
9.	TATA SIA (Vistara) Airlines	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Air Pegasus	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Go Airlines	06	02	08
12.	Air India Ltd.	33	4	37
Total				268