

The TAP/FRP includes budgetary support amounting to ₹ 30,231 crores spread over 10 years *i.e.* upto FY 2020-21 and also equity support for the payment of principal/interest of the Non-Convertible Debentures. Air India has received an equity infusion of ₹ 27,195.21 crores till date.

Shortage of pilots in the country

810. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is engaging foreign pilots to overcome the shortage of type rated pilots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to overcome the shortage of pilots; and

(d) the details of the retired pilots, who have been re-employed for short duration by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Occasionally, there are shortages of certain Type rated commanders/Pilot-in-Command due to the growth in aviation sector. To cover these shortages of Type rated commanders/Pilot-in-Command, validation of foreign licence is done by DGCA under provision of Rule 45 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 and procedures laid down in CAR (Civil Aviation Requirements) Section 7 Series G Part II. Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) is issued to fly Indian registered aircraft as per the policy decision taken by this Ministry from time to time depending upon the demand of industry. Presently, the provision of FATA is extended upto 31.12.2020.

The number of foreign pilots employed by various airlines is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) To overcome the shortage of pilots, all the Scheduled and Non-scheduled airlines have been advised to develop their own in-house strength to reduce the dependency on foreign pilots. Accordingly, airlines train their pilots to upgrade them as Pilot in Command/Commanders to reduce the dependency on foreign pilots.

(d) Directorate General of Civil Aviation does not re-employ the retired pilots for flying purpose. FOIs are appointed in DGCA on contract basis and they are thus not treated as re-employed.

Statement*List of foreign pilots employed by airlines*

Sl.No.	Schedule	No. of pilots
1.	Air Asia	17
2.	Air India Charters Ltd.	17
3.	Alliance Air	55
4.	Blue Dart	01
5.	Go Air	21
6.	Indigo	46
7.	Jet Airways	41
8.	Quick Jet Cargo	0
9.	Spice Jet	15
10.	Vistara	02
11.	Trujet	15
12.	Zoom Air	04
13.	Air Odisha	03
14.	Deccan Charters	09
15.	Non Schedule	20
TOTAL		266

Air India employees

811. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the end of December, 2017, Air India had 11,214 permanent employees, including 2056 on deputation to other companies and agencies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it also had 2913 employees on contract and 2661 on deputation from other group companies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that keeping operational requirement in view a special recruitment drive is on and the airline is in the process of filling up the existing backlog of vacancies of pilots; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?