

**Hiring foreign pilots**

†1272. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is hiring foreign pilots to deal with the shortage of type rated pilots;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to deal with the shortage of pilots; and
- (d) the details of the retired pilots re-employed for a short period by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) There is a shortage of type rated commanders/pilot-in-command due to growth in aviation sector and induction of new type of aircraft in the fleet of Indian airline operators.

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

(c) To cover the shortage 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 Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) Section 7 Series G Part-II. Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization (FATA) is issued to fly Indian registered aircraft from time to time depending upon demand of industry. Presently, provision of FATA is upto 31.12.2020. Further, all the scheduled and non-scheduled airlines have been advised to develop their own strength to reduce the dependency on foreign pilots. Accordingly, airlines train their pilots to upgrade them as commanders/pilot-in-command to reduce the dependency on foreign pilots.

(d) Directorate General of Civil Aviation does not re-employ retired pilots for flying purpose.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

***Statement***

Sl. No.	Airlines	Number of Foreign Pilots as on 10 June, 2019
1.	Alliance Air	61
2.	Star Air	04
3.	Turbo Megha Airways Pvt. Ltd.	24
4.	Tata Sia Airlines Limited (Vistara)	11
5.	SpiceJet Ltd.	35
6.	Indigo	199
7.	Go Airlines India (Ltd.)	65
8.	Air India Express	05
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>404</b>

**Awarding ground-handling work to vendors by AAI**

1273. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is planning to award ground-handling work at some of its airports to vendors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of such a move on the revenues of Air India Air Transports Services Limited (AIATSL); and

(d) whether the proposed move will have any adverse impact on Government's efforts towards disinvestment of AIATSL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The ground handling work at airports managed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) is regulated as per the provisions of Airports Authority of India (Ground Handling Services) Regulations, 2018. As per these regulations AAI is required to ensure that there are three ground handling agencies, including the Joint Venture or a subsidiary of Air India, at all airports having annual