

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) No Sir. There are 32 DGCA approved Flying Training Organisations (FTOs) to train pilots for aviation sector for Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL).

(b) As per the Aircraft Rules 1937, a student has to undergo 200 hours (including skill test) of flying training and to pass written exams for issuance of Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL). The duration of completion of CPL course depends upon various factors such as student's performance, availability of aircraft, weather conditions and time taken by a student to pass the examination.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view the projected requirement of about 800 (approx) aircrafts being inducted by scheduled domestic airlines over the period of next 7-8 years and air crew/aircraft utilization, there would be an anticipated requirement of about 9000 (approx) pilots in the country. At present there are 07 Approved Training Organizations (ATOs) in India having 30 simulators to provide type training in addition to 32 DGCA approved Flying Training Organizations (FTOs) to train pilots for aviation sector for commercial pilot licensing (CPL). Airbus company has also established Approved Training Organization (ATO) in India to train the pilots on A-320 type of aircraft. Further, training of pilots is a continuous on-going process and approved FTOs/ATOs also keep on upgrading/upscaling their training facilities/ capabilities to adopt modern technologies to meet the industry demand/requirement.

Pilots on contract in Air India

345. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pilots working on contractual basis in Air India;
- (b) whether it is a fact that more than a hundred pilots in Air India have demanded the permanent employment and increase in pay scale, service condition and facilities accordingly from the management;
- (c) if so, whether it is also a fact that they have threatened to quit the jobs if these demands are not fulfilled;
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) the arrangements made by Government to address the dearth of pilots in such situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) As on 01.11.2019, there are a TOTAL of 566 Pilots who have been engaged on Fixed Term Contract in Air India Limited.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) At present, Air India is able to meet operational requirement of Pilots from its present strength.

Deadline for repairing aircraft

†346. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a deadline for the repair work of the aircrafts of various aviation companies having technical snags;

(b) if so, the number of aircrafts having technical snag; and

(c) the action to be taken against the aviation companies which failed to carry out repair work even after the expiry of scheduled deadline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) An aircraft is maintained as per the detailed procedures / guidelines and timelines provided by the manufacturer of the aircraft which forms part of the approved maintenance programme of the operator. The aircraft is thus maintained continuously following the approved maintenance programme. During the course of operations, whenever the aircraft experiences technical snags, these are corrected based on manufacturer's guidelines before the aircraft is permitted to be released for operations.

(c) There is no prescribed time period for carrying out the repair work. In case there is a technical snag, the aircraft cannot be released for flight unless the snag

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.