

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:355

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005

SHORTAGE OF PILOTS

Patil Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of domestic and international flights cancelled by Air India, Indian Airlines and Alliance Air due to non-availability of pilots during the last one year;
- (b) whether there is acute shortage of pilots in these airlines;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps for recruitment of pilots in these airlines; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the pilots in these airlines are likely to be appointed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) and (c): At present, Air India has a shortage of 137 pilots whereas Alliance Air has a shortage of 12 Commanders each for its B737 and ATR 42 aircraft fleet. The shortfall in the category of Co-Pilots is 12 and 9 for B737 and ATR 42 respectively in Alliance Air. Though Air India has not cancelled any flight due to shortage of pilots, Alliance Air has made curtailments/adjustments to the schedule in order to maintain regularity of services within the existing resources.

(d) and (e): Air India and Alliance are in the process of recruiting additional pilots to fill up the vacancies through open advertisements in leading newspapers, campus recruitment from IGRUA at frequent intervals and from foreign recruitment agencies.