

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1298  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005  
RETIREMENT AGE FOR PILOTS  
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Air India and Indian Airlines are facing acute shortage of pilots;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to increase the retirement age of pilots;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this matter;
- (e) the extent to which the requirement of pilots is likely to be fulfilled;
- (f) whether the Government has also relaxed norms for using expatriate pilots to tie-over the shortage; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b), (c), (d) and (e): The Government has not increased the retirement age of pilots. However, the Government has permitted services of professional pilots upto the age of 65 years from the existing 61 years provided the aircraft is operated in a multi crew environment and the other pilot is less than sixty years of age.

(f) and (g): The Government has not relaxed the norms for using expatriate pilots. However, the Government has empowered the DGCA to grant validation of foreign pilot's licences for a period of one year.