

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:346  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004  
SHORTAGE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS  
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

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

- (a) whether the Airports Authority of India requires around 2000 Air Traffic Controllers and whereas presently the availability of Air Traffic Controllers is only 1100;
- (b) if so, whether there has been no recruitment of Air Traffic Controllers since 1999 and that many of Air Traffic Controllers have been retired since then;
- (c) if so, whether to make up for the shortage of Air Traffic Controllers, the different sectors and combined resulting into the work load on the Air Traffic Controllers which enhances the possibility of human error; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to recruit more Air Traffic Controllers for Airports Authority of India?

**Answer**

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

- (a) As on date, the sanctioned strength of Air traffic Controllers is 1064, against which 999 are in position.
- (b) During 2003, 56 Junior Executive Air Traffic Control (ATC) and 91 Senior Assistants have been recruited.
- (c) All efforts are made to ensure that the various sectors are manned independently. However, at times, it becomes necessary to combine various sectors.
- (d) Action has already been initiated for recruitment of 92 Junior Executive (ATC).