

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1393  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007  
LICENCE TO FOREIGN PILOTS  
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**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) expects a shortage of 500 pilots every year against the availability of only 200 trained pilots;
- (b) if so, whether to overcome this shortage, DGCA has proposed to grant licence to about 250 foreign pilots early this year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether as a measure to ease pilot shortage, DGCA is likely to introduce Multi - engine Pilot Licencing in India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a):- With the present growth of aviation it is expected that shortage of around 500 pilots would be there every year. Presently, there are 3000 type rated pilots in India.
- (b) and (c):- Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) does not suo moto grant or validate the Commercial Pilot Licences of foreign pilots. However, if airlines wish to deploy the foreign pilots/instructors, such applications are considered by DGCA for validation of their licences subject to fulfillment of the prescribed conditions. There are approximately 565 foreign pilots in the country working with various airlines.
- (d) and (e):- Multi engine pilot licenses are already in vogue in India.