

2.4 Pilot Training

MAS will continue to send trainee pilots overseas even though there is already a flying academy (the Malaysian Flying Academy) in the country. The Airlines believes that it will benefit by having pilots trained both locally and overseas. However, the number selected for overseas training will be small compared with those undergoing local training.

Currently Malaysia Airlines has about 600 pilots, of whom 120 are expatriates recruited in the last two years to meet the shortage of local pilots in coping with the growth of the national carrier. Malaysia Airlines expects to fill up 90 per cent of its pilots posts with local pilots in the next three years and within the next five years, the company will be completely manned by local pilots.

2.5 Manpower Shortage

Due to its rapid expansion, MAS has recently run into manpower shortages across the whole range of its workforce, from cabin crew to engineers. The airline is aware of these problems and of the fact that the public perceives a drop in MAS service quality. Remedial measures are said to be in place but the exact nature of these has not been revealed.