



The Airline Pilots' Guild of Sri Lanka

Affiliated to the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations

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REGISTERED POST

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Capt. Rajind Ranatunga,
Head of Flight Operations,
Sri Lankan Airlines Ltd.,
Katunayake

Dear Capt Ranatunga,

As you may recollect by way of an email/letter, the Airline Pilots Guild of Sri Lanka (ALPGSL) voiced its concern over the inclusion of the company's CEO in to the technical crew cadre. However, no attention was paid and you may recollect that there was no proper response for our said email/letter either. As the company is short of pilots and given that a considerable number has left in the last few weeks alone, we made a collective decision not to make life difficult for the management by continuously disputing this matter. Of course, we need to reiterate at this point that our silence should not be understood as our acceptance of him in to the cadre or that we would be receptive of him being included in the cadre.

The CEO is scheduled to commence his initial A320 line training in the immediate next roster which has already been published. We have been made to aware that the instructors who were originally rostered to conduct his training has been removed from the published roster and that the CEO has selected an instructor of his choice to conduct all his training, contravening procedures and policies of the company.

If he has no hesitation in ordering that his training schedule be amended to his advantage in this manner, obviously he would have no reservations about manipulating the roster, deceiving the system or any other wrongful act that is not acceptable as per any ethical yardstick. Being a CEO in this day and age, proper knowledge of good corporate governance and ethics is a must, display of same and leading by example is paramount. If he can use his discretion to choose his instructor, please do let us know in writing if the same facility is available to all pilots as all of us would like to choose our instructors for our checks. In the event you confirm to us that other pilots may not choose their instructors, do allow us to open your eyes to the fact that this is a clear abuse of power, again an unethical and unacceptable action by anyone in an organization. An action that will certainly put our company's reputation and the careers of many officials involved in jeopardy.

At this juncture we wish to remind you that the CEO was accepted in to the coveted tech crew cadre of Sri Lankan Airlines beyond protocol; without him having to face the rigorous intake procedure that all Captains face irrespective of their expertise or skills elsewhere. Needless to say, the company has recruited many captains with superior flying capabilities and better track records, all of whom have gone through this process as it is the accepted standard by the company. It is also noteworthy that the tech crew trained by the company are either bonded or the trainee bears the training costs whereas this appears to be a scholarship offered to the CEO. In which case may we kindly know for what merit or on what grounds he has been offered such an opportunity? It would have been worthwhile and productive if this opportunity had been granted to a young pilot.

We as the ALPGSL realize the gravity of having proper line training and are baffled by the company's lackadaisical attitude towards the rule book in spite of having burnt its fingers in public over violations of the law in the recent past. Hence, we will strive to ensure that under qualified or under trained individuals are not allowed in to the cadre. In the event the above mentioned party's training is not streamlined we will take drastic action.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



Capt Venura Perera
President - ALPGSL

Cc: Capt Romesh De Silva, CP - Training & Standards
Capt Pravin Wettimuny, CP - A330
Capt Chaminda De Zoysa, CP - A320
Mr H M C Nimal Siri - Director General of Civil Aviation
Hon Kabir Hashim - Minister Public Enterprise Development
Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardane - Minister
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