

Paramount to hire 500 pilots

New Delhi: Coimbatore-based Paramount Airways plans to hire 500 pilots and 600 cabin crew members in the next two years as it eyes nationwide presence and a five-fold increase in fleet size by 2011.

The airline, which currently has five Embraer jets, will take delivery of another 20 aircraft by 2011.

"We employ 25 pilots and 30 cabin crew members per aircraft. Accordingly the numbers will go up (with the addition in the fleet)," Paramount managing director M Thiagarajan said.

The carrier would begin the hiring shortly with two more Embraer aircraft slated for delivery by March-end.

The airline, which offers only business and first class configuration, deploys a higher number of flight attendants than others. "We deploy five cabin crew members per flight against the industry average of two per flight for economy class," he said. Paramount has about 125 pilots and 150 cabin crew members. AGENCIES