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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

SUSPENSION OF PAKISTANI LICENSE HOLDERS IN MALAYSIA

PUTRAJAYA – Following the statement by Aviation Minister of Pakistan, Ghulam Sarwar Khan on the alarming number of Pakistani pilots that holds fraudulent licenses, the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) is temporarily suspending Pakistani license holders who are currently employed in Malaysia.

This suspension comes after Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) revealed that 262 out of 860 active Pakistani pilots had not sat for the pilot exams themselves and that in total, 40% of pilots, including inactive ones, held fake licenses. In light of this, a number of countries have announced their decision to ground Pakistani pilots and ban Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) from operating flights in and out of their countries.

After an evaluation of all foreign pilots employed in Malaysia and in the interest of the safety and security of Malaysia's civil aviation, CAAM is temporarily suspending Pakistani license holders who are currently employed by local operators. CAAM is currently making all efforts to verify with PCAA on the authenticity of these Pakistani license holders. License holders that are verified as valid by PCAA will be reinstated immediately. The records of the Pakistani license holders will be reviewed in cooperation between CAAM and PCAA.

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