

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1771
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17th March 2025
NORMS FOR ENHANCED AVIATION SAFETY

1771. SMT RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the concerns raised by pilots regarding fatigue due to inadequate rest and duty hours in the aviation sector, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the steps taken to ensure that the revised norms, such as enhanced weekly rest and updated definitions of night flying, are implemented uniformly across all airlines; and**
- (c) the measures taken to balance the operational concerns of airlines with the safety concerns raised by pilots regarding fatigue and extended duty hours?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): The concerns have been raised by pilots regarding fatigue due to inadequate rest and duty hours in the aviation sector.

DGCA has published Civil aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 7 Series J Part III Rev 2 dated 26.03.2024 in respect of flight time, flight duty period, duty period and rest period limitations for flight crew information, guidance and compliance by all concerned. However, the matter is sub judice in the Hon'ble High court order of Delhi vide W.P (C) 616 of 2023 (extraordinary original civil jurisdiction)

As per the directives of the Hon'ble High court order dated 24.10.2024 in respect of Flight and Duty Time Limitations (FDTL), meeting was held on 25.10.2024 in DGCA headquarters. The primary purpose of the meeting was to hear the grievances of the pilot associations, and the respondents from Air India.

DGCA has submitted the Affidavit in the court for implementation of the New flight duty norms in a phased manner from 01 July 2025.

As per the Delhi High Court order dated February 24, 2025, airlines will submit their Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) scheme as per DGCA regulations which will be examined, reviewed and approved by DGCA as per past practice.
