

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2407  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025)**

**AIRPORTS ADOPTING GLOBAL SAFETY AUDITS**

2407. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL

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

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure that investors, airlines, and airports adopt global safety audits, in the absence of a regulatory firewall;
- (b) Government justification for approving new airline licenses when many existing carriers struggle with basic operational compliance;
- (c) reason for Government not introducing mandatory safety-grade capacity audits or independent passenger safety scorecards; and
- (d) manner in which Government plan to reconcile aviation growth with rising global safety expectations without enacting any systemic regulatory reforms?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): India being a signatory to the Chicago Convention, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is required to implement the applicable Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) prescribed in various International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Annexes.

Accordingly, DGCA has established a systematic safety oversight process for monitoring the compliance of Rules and Civil Aviation Requirements (CARs) encompassing all the airlines and airport operators. The safety oversight process includes annual surveillances, spot checks and regulatory audits. In addition, special audits are also carried out as per the risk perceived.

DGCA has an elaborate certification process in place for ensuring that the prospective airline demonstrates compliance to all the applicable regulatory requirements before grant of Air Operator Certificate, which is followed by a systematic and continuing safety oversight of the airline operator in terms of

periodic surveillance and audits to ensure continuous compliance of applicable regulatory requirements. Further, there is an established process for resolution of any deficiencies or safety concerns observed during such inspections/audits through appropriate enforcement actions.

To reconcile aviation growth with rising global safety expectations, regulations are amended from time to time in alignment with International Standards. Regular assessments are carried out to make necessary reforms in the system to cater to growth.

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