GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

Rajya Sabha

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 28 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21st July 2025

PASSENGER SAFETY GAP IN AVIATION

28. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the existing civil aviation requirement falls short of complying with the international standards and regulations established by International Civil Aviation Organisation, and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) steps taken by Government to enhance the safety standards of passengers in aviation; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to adopt a new or amend the existing policy to ensure strict regulatory oversight mechanisms in aviation and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): India being a signatory of Chicago Convention complies with all the international standards provided under the Annexes of the Convention. Section 11(1) of the Bharatiya Yayuyan Adiniyam, 2024 empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the Convention. Further, under Rule 29C of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, the Director General of Civil Aviation is empowered to lay down the Standard and procedures to carry out the Convention and any Annex thereto. Accordingly, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issues Civil Aviation Requirements from time to time complying with the international standard and regulations established by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

(b): In order to ensure the safety of passengers, DGCA has a robust safety oversight mechanism in place, which includes surveillance, spot checks, and audits to monitor compliance with Rules and Civil Aviation Requirements (CARs). Special audits are also conducted based on risk perception. An Annual Surveillance Plan is published, and findings are followed up with operators for compliance. Enforcement actions, including financial penalties, are taken in case of violations. DGCA has also implemented the National Aviation Safety Plan (2024 - 2028) to address operational safety risks through measurable performance indicators and targeted actions in consultation with service providers.

(c): Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.
