

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 37
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21st July 2025
STAFF DEFICIT AT DGCA AND IMPACT ON AVIATION
SAFETY

37. SMT PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI

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

- (a) the total number of sanctioned positions at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as of 31st March 2025, and the number of those remaining vacant;**
- (b) the increase in sanctioned positions, if any, or recruitment plans to match the rapid growth in airline fleets since 2020;**
- (c) the steps taken by Government to urgently fill critical vacancies in DGCA, particularly in safety and audit roles, to ensure that regulatory oversight keeps pace with fleet expansion; and**
- (d) whether there has been any assessment of the impact of delayed audits or inspections due to staff shortages, and corrective measures that are planned?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Keeping in view the current and future expansion of civil aviation and enhanced role of DGCA as a safety regulator, an exercise of restructuring was undertaken by the DGCA. As a result of said exercise of restructuring, 441 posts (including 426 technical posts) have been created between 2022 and 2024. Total number of sanctioned positions in DGCA as on date are 1644, out of which 823 posts are vacant.

(c) All methods of recruitment are pursued vigorously in order to ensure timely and continuous availability of requisite manpower. To meet requirements in the interregnum due to vacancies arising from reasons like inadequate response to advertisements, non-joining of selected candidates, persons with insufficient service in the feeder cadre for promotion, insufficient response to deputation posts, efforts are made to recruit persons through short terms contractual hiring.

(d) The creation of additional posts is a part of restructuring for the current and future expansion of civil aviation sector and the enhanced role of DGCA as a safety regulator. The shortfall has not impacted the surveillance plans which are undertaken regularly as a part of Annual Surveillance Plan published on the website of DGCA.
