GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

Rajya Sabha

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 823 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th July 2025

STAFF SHORTAGE IN DGCA AND ITS IMPACT ON AVIATION SAFETY

823. SHRI SANJAY SINGH

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are over 1,633 staff positions vacant in Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), as mentioned in the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, if so, the steps taken by Government so far to fill these vacancies; and
- (b) whether Government has carried out any risk impact assessment to assess the impact of severe shortage of staff in DGCA in the context of recent aviation incidents and delays in regulatory actions?

ANSWER

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

(a) Keeping in view the current and future expansion of civil aviation and enhanced role of DGCA as a safety regulator, 441 posts (including 426 technical posts) were created between 2022 and 2024 under restructuring exercises. Total number of sanctioned positions in DGCA as on date are 1644, out of which 823 are vacant.

It is pertinent to mention that in order to cater the requirements of the civil aviation in the country, number of posts in DGCA have been created in the last couple of years. Therefore, the shortfall has not impacted the functioning of DGCA. Further, 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.

(b) 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.
