

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 729
(To be answered on the 6th February 2020)

MANDATORY FLIGHT DUTY

729. **SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK**
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR
SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government/Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) that many airline companies are making their pilots to work for more than mandatory flight duty time and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether DGCA has issued notices to such airline companies for violating a mandatory flight duty time limitation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the airline companies in this regard;
- (d) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether a pilot in India is considered qualified after 200 hours of flying on a light piston engine plane whereas an airline co-pilot in America and other countries needs to fly at least 1500 hours; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make aviation standards of the country at par with international standards?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

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- (a) During review of Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) scheme for

airlines flight crew, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) observed multiple cases of non compliance of FDTL requirements contained in Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) issued by DGCA in the case of M/s Go Airlines (India) Ltd by both operator and flight crew. These violations were mainly on requirement of weekly off, minimum rest period, consecutive night operations etc.

(b) to (d) Show Cause Notice was issued to Accountable Manager and Director Flight Operations of M/s Go Airlines (India) Ltd. for engaging flight crew (pilots) in violation to their approved FDTL Scheme. Warning letters were also issued to individual pilots of M/s Go Airlines for FDTL violations by DGCA. The airline has submitted steps taken as corrective action on the subject including conducting a daily audit of their roster every evening prior to next day of operations. Further DGCA ensures compliance of FDTL regulations by airlines through continuous oversight such as routine surveillance, audit and inspections.

(e) and (f) A Pilot, can fly for an airline after 200 hrs of flying an aircraft and in possession of a valid Commercial Pilot License (CPL). As per the privileges of the CPL, its holder may act as Pilot-in-Command of any aircraft having an all-up-weight not exceeding 5700 Kgs, and which is entered in the aircraft rating of his license. He may also act as Co-pilot of any aircraft where a Co-pilot is mandatory and which is entered in aircraft rating of his licence. Further, for acquiring Airline Transport Pilot License (ATPL) the candidate needs to acquire minimum 1500 hours of flying as per Section M, Schedule II of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. The requirement and privileges for Commercial Pilot License and Airline Transport Pilot License in Aircraft Rules, 1937 are in line with ICAO Annex I Standards & Recommended Practices.
