

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1919  
(To be answered on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020)**

**FAA OBSERVATION ON STAFF AT DGCA**

**1919. SHRI VELUSAMY P.**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) observation on staff at Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has pointed out lack of training of technical staff at DGCA and shortfall of Flight Operating Inspectors (FOIs) in the DGCA's pay roll;**
- (b) If so, the actual sanctioned strength of the FOIs and the present strength of FOIs as on date;**
- (c) the number of FOIs on the pay roll of DGCA and the status of other FOIs not on the pay roll of DGCA including the method of payment to the non-DGCA Flight Operating Inspectors;**
- (d) Whether the Government is having any proposal to recruit FOIs to fulfill the norms prescribed by the FAA; and**
- (e) If so, the details thereof;**

**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) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of USA, under its International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) program last conducted a safety audit of India in July 2018 wherein it was pointed out that DGCA does not have sufficient number of Flight Operations Inspectors (FOIs) vis-a-vis the sanctioned strength of 75 FOIs. The audit also pointed out lack of training of technical staff covering flying training and licensing at DGCA. As a corrective action, DGCA filled the vacant positions of FOIs and conducted the training for the technical staff of DGCA. Thereafter, based on the follow-up visit in November 2018, FAA closed the findings and confirmed that India meets relevant requirements for aviation safety under international standards of the Chicago Convention.**

**In an earlier audit conducted in the year 2013, FAA had raised the finding**

that DGCA does not have sufficient FOIs commensurate to the aviation activity in India and placed India under Category 2. As a corrective action, 75 new positions of FOIs were created in DGCA and recruitment carried out. The recruited FOIs were provided required training. Based on actions taken to create FOI positions, recruit and train the FOIs, FAA after a satisfactory audit restored India's Category 1 status in April 2015.

(b) The sanctioned strength of the FOIs is 75. At present there are 34 FOIs in various categories.

(c) FOIs are engaged in DGCA, on contract basis, and are remunerated from the DGCA Budget.

(d) & (e) FAA does not prescribe any norms for recruiting FOIs in DGCA. However, a Vacancy circular for filling up of 40 posts of FOI in various categories has been issued vide DGCA's vacancy circular dated 11.9.2020.

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