

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2015
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11th December 2025)
AVIATION SAFETY LAPSES

2015. SHRI SUDAMA PRASAD

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has taken responsibility for the serious aviation safety lapses flagged in DGCA's surveillance at major airports including Delhi and Mumbai involving outdated manuals, operational lapses and poor documentation and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the specific actions taken against airport operators and agencies found non-compliant and the reasons for no suspensions being reported despite repeated violations;

(c) whether the Government acknowledges that such systemic failures in enforcing safety standards expose millions of passengers to daily risk and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether immediate reforms are being undertaken to overhaul aviation safety governance beyond audits in light of chronic understaffing at DGCA and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Government intends to release the audit findings and publish a timeline-bound action taken report?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has a robust mechanism at licensed airports to ensure compliance of regulatory requirements through surveillance audits. To ensure passenger safety and to maintain global aviation safety standards, there is a systematic safety oversight process in place for monitoring the compliance of Rules and Civil Aviation Requirements. The safety oversight process includes surveillances, spot check and regulatory audits. In addition, special audits are also carried out as per the risk perceived.;

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During the recent surveillance audit at major airports, no significant lapses were observed. All observations were categorized as level II and communicated to concerned aerodrome operators. Further, after the completion of action by operators, the same were closed.;

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(c): Airport license is issued after satisfactory compliance to the requirements specified in Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 4, Series B, Part I and Section 4, Series F, Part I. Aerodrome operators are responsible to maintain airports in fit state during the validity of aerodrome license and the same is ensured by DGCA by conducting surveillance inspections

regularly. Further, if any violation is identified, enforcement action against the aerodrome operator is initiated as per Enforcement Policy and Procedure Manual.;

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(d): Keeping in view of current and future expansion of civil aviation sector, effective supervision and enhanced role of DGCA as safety regulator, 441 posts have been created during last 3 years as part of DGCA restructuring. Out of total 1630 sanctioned strength of DGCA, 836 posts are currently filled.;

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In the last 4 months, following steps have been taken to strengthen manpower in DGCA:-

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i. 22 Officers have joined.;

ii. Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for 42 officers completed.;

iii. 62 Technical Officers, 5 Flight Operations Inspectors (FoIs) and 8 Stenographers have been selected to join.;

iv. Examination for 121 Operations Officers has been conducted.;;

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(e): Regular safety oversight at licensed airports is an ongoing activity and is carried out in accordance with the Annual Surveillance Plan published on the DGCA website. The findings observed during such inspections are communicated to the concerned airport operators for necessary corrective action and same is monitored by DGCA at regular intervals.
