

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2104
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12th February 2026)

VARIATIONS ON PILOT DUTY NORMS

2104. COM. SELVARAJ V
SHRI SUBBARAYAN K

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government had previously given certain dispensation/variations to the airlines on pilots duty and rest period norms and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the relief on pilot's duty norms has been withdrawn so that the safety is not compromised, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for a periodic review of the recruitment of pilots by airlines?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted certain variations to airlines from CAR Section 7, Series J, Part III based on operational constraints related to night duty, number of landings, weekly rest, consecutive night duties and others.

These variations/dispensations were granted for a limited period of six months i.e. upto 30th April 2026 after due consideration of safety risk analysis subject to further review.

Further, as requested by M/s Indigo, temporary exemption from the provisions of Clauses 3.11 and 6.1.4 of FDTL CAR 7/J/III has been granted up to 10.02.2026 solely to support operational stabilization in view of public interest.

(c): Recruitment of pilots is carried out by airlines based on their operational requirement, network and aircraft fleet. DGCA has been regularly interacting with the operator and obtaining weekly and fortnightly reports on critical operational and manpower parameters to monitor operational stability and ensure continued regulatory oversight.
