

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4580**  
( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th March 2026 )

**AIRLINE REGULATORY OVERSIGHT**

4580. SMT PRATIMA MONDAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is true that the regulatory supervision by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is adequately staffed and institutionally independent keeping in view the recent operational disruptions and safety-related incidents and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the transparent and objective criteria applied in granting No Objection Certificates to newly proposed private airlines;

(c) whether independent financial and safety audits were conducted prior to their approval and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the monitoring mechanism in place to assess financial stress among airlines to prevent sudden service collapses affecting passengers and employees?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): The total number of sanctioned posts of Group 'A' Technical Officers in Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is 1063. Out of 1063 posts, 426 posts have been created during the period 2022 to 2024 keeping in view of current & future expansion of civil aviation sector and enhanced role of DGCA as a safety regulator.

As a part of recruitment exercise, 167 candidates have already been selected/recommended, out of which offer of appointments have also been issued to 106 candidates. Replacement of 42 candidates (Airworthiness Officers) from reserve panel has been requested from UPSC.

Recruitment in DGCA is a continuous process. To meet requirements in the interregnum, vacancies are managed by recruiting persons through short terms contractual hiring. Further, the shortfall in manpower has not impacted the safety functions of DGCA.

(b) to (d): Ministry of Civil Aviation grants No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to eligible applicants for setting up airlines in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) which lay down the prescribed eligibility conditions and procedural requirements. Applications are submitted and processed through the e-Sahaj Single Window Digital Platform, a digital system for civil aviation-related approvals. NOCs are granted after examination of applications in accordance with the provisions of the applicable CAR and the prescribed procedures under the e-Sahaj system.

There are no safety audits prior to issue of NOC. Safety audits are only carried out after the issue of Air Operator Permit (AOP).

With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation has been deregulated. The financial and operational decisions, including resource mobilization, and debt restructuring, are managed by the respective airlines based on commercial considerations.

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