

Title: Reg: Handling of unruly air passengers.

SHRI BELLANA CHANDRA SEKHAR (VIZIANAGARAM): The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) recently issued an advisory to the head of operations of all scheduled airlines with respect to handling unruly passengers on board, asking them to use 'restraining devices' when all other options have been exhausted. Regulating passenger behaviour on flights is necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of all passengers and crew on board. Unruly behaviour can include anything from verbal abuse and physical altercations to non-compliance with safety instructions and disregard for the rules of the airline. Such behaviour can cause disruptions to the flight, create a hostile environment for others on board, and even put the safety of the flight at risk. In this regard, Article 4 of the Montreal Protocol of 2014 to the Tokyo Convention of 1963 gives the State rights where the aircrafts lands jurisdiction over the offender, where the offence has been committed after embarkation and closing of aircraft doors. It follows that India can take the lead by enacting a statutory law to regulate passenger behaviour in planes which land and take off from Indian airports-irrespective of whether these airlines are registered within the country or not.