

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:330
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO MEET SAFETY NORMS
Dube Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the DGCA has sought foreign help to meet safety norms as reported in The Times of India dated 31, January 2009;
- (b) if so, the benefits to be accrued therefrom and expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
- (c) the reasons for seeking external assistance; and
- (d) the efforts being made to develop required technology in India?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)and (b):- Yes, Sir. International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has offered to run National Projects in the areas of flight safety, aerodromes and air navigation services in order to address the findings of the audit conducted by ICAO in October 2006 under their Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme. These National Projects which will augment the existing strength of DGCA by hiring experts (international/national) to assist DGCA in discharging its regulatory and safety oversight functions, till regular technical staff are recruited and trained by the Government. A plan outlay of Rs.2 crore has been estimated during the year 2009-10 for the National Projects of ICAO.

(c)and (d):- The ICAO policy stipulates that contracting States that are unable to address the deficiencies detected during the ICAO audit are provided technical assistance in addressing deficiencies under State funded projects. ICAO has offered these projects to India to assist in implementing remaining corrective actions based on ICAO Audit recommendations and strengthen the DGCA by providing experts to carry out safety oversight functions.