

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:226

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011

REVIEW OF DGCA

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (NACIL) and the private airlines have taken adequate steps to meet the challenges posed by the increase in air travellers, both domestic and international;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) lacks statutory backing and its financial and administrative powers are limited;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to revamp/ restructure DGCA to improve its working by arming it with more statutory powers and increasing its financial and administrative powers; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (f):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred () Question No. 226 for 17/08/2011 regarding "Review of DGCA".

(a) and (b):- Operations in domestic air sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. At present, commercial flights are being operated from 82 aerodromes/airports in the country.

At present India has Air Services Agreements with 108 countries which provide the basic legal framework to provide international connectivity. The number of services being operated internationally by Indian Carriers is 1014 services per week, out of which 517 services per week are being operated by Air India/ Air India Express. Indian carriers are free to mount international operations from any point in India as per bilateral agreements.

(c) and (d):- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has the statutory powers as defined in the Aircraft Act, 1934 and Aircraft Rules, 1937. DGCA is an attached office of Ministry of Civil Aviation and the DGCA has been vested with certain limited financial powers as defined for a Head of Department in the Delegation of Financial Power Rules, 1978 and also limited administrative power as Head of Department.

(e) and (f):- Government is in the process of formulating a legislative proposal for setting up of Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of India in place of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The proposed CAA will have more statutory functions in certain new areas, more powers and autonomy in its sphere of working, particularly financial and administrative powers to enable it to discharge effective safety oversight, environment protection, consumer protection etc.