

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3505
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011
STANDARDS OF CIVIL AVIATION
Premdas Shri

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a few other Asian and continental countries have been placed in category-I alongwith India by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for maintaining the standards of civil aviation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for the said ranking; and
- (c) the specific steps taken by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to ensure that India does not slip to category-II?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) and (b):- The list of countries with Category 1 and Category 2 rating as determined by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) under their International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) programme is annexed. Before permitting a foreign airline in United States of America, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of USA, backed by the US legislation conducts an audit of the concerned country's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)/ Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to ensure its capability for providing safety certification and continuing oversight on its international carriers.

(c):- There were 19 observations made in the audit of DGCA of India conducted by FAA in March, 2009 mainly in the areas of

- (i) availability of qualified technical personnel in DGCA;
- (ii) technical guidance for the personnel;
- (iii) continued Surveillance Obligations; and
- (iv) resolution of safety concerns. DGCA was in turn required to rectify these deficiencies.

India has been holding Category 1 rating since 1997. Actions were taken to improve the following areas

- (i) primary aviation legislation ;
- (ii) specific operating regulations;
- (iii) civil aviation system and safety oversight functions;
- (iv) qualification and training of technical staff,
- (v) procedures and technical guidance;
- (vi) licensing and certification obligations;
- (vii) surveillance obligations and
- (viii) resolution of safety concerns. The actions taken by DGCA were again reviewed by FAA in July, 2010 and based on the findings, FAA has confirmed that India will remain Category 1.