

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2621
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014
SAFETY STANDARDS IN CIVIL AVIATION
Kumar Shri P.;Sugumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether severe criticisms have been made by the International Civil Aviation Organisation and the United States Federal Aviation Administration about poor safety records and the deficiencies in the functioning of DGCA;
- (b) if so, the specific instances pointed out by the above organisations;
- (c) whether the DGCA has taken any steps to address the deficiencies pointed out by the above organisations and to upgrade the safety standards in the aviation sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address all the concerns expressed by the above organisations?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) and (b): ICAO, under its Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP), conducted an audit of India in December 2012. ICAO raised two significant safety concerns (SSCs) in the areas of operations and airworthiness. India took immediate corrective actions to address these concerns which were confirmed during a subsequent visit by the ICAO audit team in the month of August 2013 and the SSCs were resolved.

Based on the SSCs raised by ICAO, FAA under International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) programme carried out an audit of DGCA in September 2013 and raised 31 findings.

(c) to (e): DGCA took immediate corrective actions to address the concerns raised by ICAO during the audit in December 2012. The SSCs were resolved after an ICAO audit team visited DGCA in the month of August 2013.

DGCA has taken actions to address the 31 findings raised by FAA during the audit in September 2013. After the FAA visit in December 2013, action on 24 findings out of the total 31 findings is complete and these findings have been closed by FAA.

Since December 2013, DGCA has taken several actions to address the remaining 7 open findings. Apart from taking actions on procedural issues, DGCA has hired 18 FOIs on short-term contract for a period of one year. Further, Government has approved 75 positions of regular FOIs in DGCA for which the recruitment process has commenced.