

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2022

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015

PILOTS ALLOWED TO TAKE SHORT NAP ON LONG FLIGHTS

Mohan Shri P. C.

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted permission to allow the pilots to take short nap on long flights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the precautions to be taken for the safety of the passengers and crew members;
- (c) whether this rule is also applicable to on-duty crew members and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether several pilots` unions have demanded any change in Flight Duty Time Limitation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of DGCA thereto?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b) Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued Operations Circular 8 of 2013 on the subject Controlled Rest On Flight Deck. The Circular specifies the procedure for controlled rest, flight path management, flight deck- cabin communication to monitor alertness of non resting flight crew members during controlled rest.

(c) The requirement for controlled rest in seat is only applicable for flight crew.

(d) to (e) Details of representations received from pilots unions is as follows:

(i) Society for Welfare of Indian Pilots in their letter dated September 09, 2011 has mentioned that `We strongly implore you to put this FDTL through a proper scientific and medical evaluation as required by Law`. In their letter dated December 12, 2011 they requested to delete Para 4.2 of the Civil Aviation Requirements and requested that CAR FDTL be scientific and medically evaluated prior to its implementation. In their letter dated September 09, 2011 they mentioned several different interpretation of different paras of the CAR. Letters were also received from Indian Commercial Pilots Association related to clarification on certain points in the CAR.

DGCA has issued Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 7, Series J Part III based on the report of Dr. Nasim Zaidi Committee on `Flight & duty Time Limitations and Rest Requirements for Flight Crew Members` after considering comments from stakeholders.