

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1906

ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016

Cases of Drunken Pilots

Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the number of pilots, both public as well as private airlines, reporting for duty with high level of alcohol in their blood;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, airline/year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has given any punishments except suspending the license or taking off duty, to any of the Pilots for failing the high blood alcohol checks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b)

As per data available with DGCA, 112 Pilots have tested alcohol positive during pre-flight medical examination for consumption of alcohol during the last three years and current year. The year-wise details are as follows:

Year No. of Pilots

2013 30

2014 26

2015 43

2016 (28.04.2016) 13

The Airline-wise details are attached as Appendix-I

(c) to (e)

Action other than suspension is taken for the violation of Rule 24 of the Aircraft Rules 1937 which inter alia states that "No person acting as, or carried in aircraft for the purpose of acting as pilot, commander, navigator, engineer, cabin crew or other operating member of the crew thereof, shall have taken or used any alcoholic drink, sedative, narcotic or stimulant drug or preparation within twelve hours of the commencement of the flight or take or use any such preparation in the course of the flight, and no such person shall, while so acting or carried, be in a state of intoxication or have detectable blood alcohol whatsoever in his breath, urine or blood alcohol analysis or in a state in which by reason of his having taken any alcoholic, sedative, narcotic or stimulant drug or preparation, his capacity so to act is impaired."

However, no case of violation of Rule 24 of the Aircraft Rule 1937, in respect of pilot has come to the notice of DGCA during the last three year and current year.