

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1602
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014
REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL AVIATION SECTOR
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of institutional mechanism presently available for ensuring safety of aircraft operations, and to deal with issues related to environment and consumer protection, etc.;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up a regulatory authority for the Civil Aviation Sector in this regard;
- (c) if so, the role and functions envisaged for the authority along with its proposed composition and the present status;
- (d) the likely role of Director General of Civil Aviation in the event of establishment of new authority; and
- (e) the time by which the said authority is likely to set up?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri G. M. Siddeshwara)

(a) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) exercises safety oversight of operators through prescriptive and performance based safety oversight. As a part of prescriptive oversight, DGCA has drawn Annual Surveillance programme which includes surveillance and regulatory audit of operators. As a part of performance based oversight, implementation of Safety Management System in operators organization is ensured for ensuring safety. With regard to institutional mechanism to deal with environment, DGCA has formed an Aviation Environment Unit with an objective to ensure environmental protection in aviation sector related climate change, aircraft noise and local air quality. DGCA has issued various guidelines in order to minimize noise generated from aircraft operations and reduction of carbon emissions from domestic aviation. DGCA is also assessing the carbon footprint of civil aviation on a regular basis.

On Consumer Protection front, DGCA has set up a passenger grievance cell with an objective to address passenger related grievances with the stakeholders for early resolution. Further, DGCA has also issued various regulations in the form of Civil Aviation Requirements (CARs) on consumer protection, which inter-alia include facilities to be provided in case of denied boarding, cancellation or delays in flights, carriage by air of persons with disability and/ or persons with reduced mobility, refund of airline tickets, etc. Compliance of above CARs is ensured on regular basis.

(b) Yes Madam. There is a proposal to set up a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of India in place of DGCA.

(c) to (e) The CAA of India will have a legal status as a separate entity having administrative and financial flexibility for effective civil aviation safety oversight capabilities over air transport service operators, air service navigation operators and operators of other civil aviation facilities, development and standardization of civil aircraft and aeronautics, consumer protection and environment regulation in civil aviation sector and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The proposed composition of CAA is as under

- i) a chairperson
- ii) a Director General and
- iii) not less than seven Members and not more than nine members to be appointed by the Central Government.

It is proposed that the Director General of Civil Aviation is to be appointed by the Central Government. The Director General shall be the Chief Executive of the authority and will be a whole-time member and will not hold any other office

A proposal for introduction of Civil Aviation Authority of India Bill, 2014 in the Parliament is at inter-ministerial consultation stage for Cabinet approval.