

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The post of Chairman in Airports Authority of India became vacant on 23rd January, 2014. Ministry of Civil Aviation is taking steps for filling up of this post. In respect of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Shri Prabhat Kumar, IAS (UP: 1985) has been appointed as DG, DGCA for a period of three years with the approval of ACC vide letter dated 24th January, 2014. However, in respect of CMD, Pawan Hans Limited, ACC vide its letter dated 30.01.2014 has conveyed approval of extension of the additional charge of the post of CMD, PHL to Shri Anil Srivastava, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, for a period of six months beyond 21.12.2013, or till the appointment of regular incumbent, whichever is earlier.

Hiring of professionals by DGCA

2491. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made a proposal to allow the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to hire experienced professional and technical staff directly from market instead of from formal UPSC recruitment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has warned the DGCA regarding downgrade personnel and asked to provide a report of compliance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. DGCA has been allowed to appoint Flight Operation Inspectors (FOIs) on *ad-hoc* basis on contract against newly created regular posts.

(c) to (d) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has assigned Category 2 rating to India based on the International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) audit carried out by FAA in September, 2013 and review conducted in December, 2013 on the actions taken by India to address the findings.

The Category 2 has been assigned primarily due to the finding related to lack of sufficient number of regular FOIs in DGCA resulting in DGCA's inability to have

effective safety oversight of its operators. Under Category 2, US will not permit any expansion/changes to the services of Indian air carriers to the US are subjected to 'heightened FAA surveillance'.

Unused airports in the country

2492. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of airports in the country, built and maintained by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) at a considerable cost are lying completely unused;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to have code shares with regional carriers or operators of air taxis to use the idle lying airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. List of airports built and managed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) having no schedule operations at present is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The proposal for code sharing with carriers is in a very preliminary stage. Therefore, details are yet to be worked out.

Statement

List of airports built and managed by AAI having no schedule operation at present

Sl. No	Name of Airport	Sl. No	Name of Airport
1	Aizawl (Tural)	6	Cooch Behar
2	Asansol	7	Cuddapah
3	Balurghat	8	Daparizo
4	Bilaspur	9	Deesa (Palanpur)
5	Chakulia	10	Donakonda