



## FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

Ref No: FIP/DGCA/2022 - 04

30th May 2022

To,

Shri Arun Kumar, IAS  
Director General of Civil Aviation  
Office of Director General of Civil Aviation,  
Aurobindo Marg, opp. Safdarjung Airport,  
New Delhi, 110003.

### **Sub: Hazard due Laser Attack**

Dear Sir,

We wish to bring to your attention the following:

1. The hazard posed by laser attacks against civil aircraft, specifically the deliberate targeting of the flight crew with laser illumination to disrupt the safe operation of the aircraft, is a matter of deep concern to pilots worldwide. These strikes can result in distraction, disruption, disorientation and, in extreme cases, blindness and incapacitation.
2. Although most attacks happen when the aircraft is in close proximity to the ground, events are now being recorded at altitudes in excess of 8,000 feet. So far when a pilot has been attacked on final approach, they have been able to hand over controls to the other pilot to complete the landing safely. We are extremely concerned that as the power, range, and divergence of the beams increase, we will see events where both pilots are effectively incapacitated close to the ground, with likely catastrophic consequences.
3. We at FIP believe that laser attacks represent a critical security and safety issue and should be considered as acts of unlawful interference. We at FIP strongly believe that the best line of defence is effective ground security preventing them in the first place. , therefore, call for research to find solutions which would assist law enforcement authorities in stopping these attacks and in locating the perpetrators so they can be dealt with in an appropriate manner.
4. The lack of proper legislation is a matter of deep concern to us. There is no legislation to provide an effective deterrence to laser attacks. Even if the local police manage to locate and catch the perpetrators of a laser attack, prosecution may not be possible. We should establish and implement regulations, practices, and procedures to safeguard civil aviation against laser attack on aircraft and to ensure that the general public is fully aware of the seriousness and possible consequences of these attacks.
5. Any laser attack leading to injury to a pilot's eye should be classified as a Serious Incident and subject to appropriate investigation by the Air Accident Investigation Board.

Yours faithfully,  
FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

Capt. Surinder Mehta  
President, FIP

cc: Secretary- Civil Aviation, MOCA, New Delhi

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