



## FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

Ref No: FIP/DGCA/2023 - 03

27th January 2023

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

**Sub: Appeal against permanently unfit pilots being declared perpetually TMU during final DGCA assessment**

Sir,

We are writing to appeal against a trend of commercial pilots being kept perpetually temporarily unfit by the DGCA, when in fact, they are Permanently Medically Unfit (PMU) and conclusively medically proven to be as such. It has been noticed that even serious and irreversible medical cases that are declared PMU by IAF Medical Boards (including CME/IAM etc) are frequently being overturned during the final DGCA Assessment and declared TMU for indefinite periods of time instead.

Declaring such a licence holder temporarily unfit for an indefinite time period leads to confusion and uncertainty.

Unlike medically grounded pilots employed by the armed forces and other government services who can continue with ground jobs until their retirement and also draw post-retirement benefits, commercial pilots do not have a social or job security net. The majority of commercial pilots working in the private sector who are declared temporarily unfit for prolonged periods and are not declared PMU in a time bound manner in their final DGCA assessment, despite having permanent conditions that are inconsistent with flying, run the risk of eventually having their services terminated by employers without adequate monetary compensation and losing their insurance cover beyond a specific period of being grounded (typically 12-24 months from the onset of being medically grounded).

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The only benefactors of such perpetual TMU cases in the civil aviation industry are the insurance companies that charge substantial premiums for Loss of Licence Policies from pilots and employers who do not need to pay out PMU compensation benefits.

We respectfully request you to review and re-evaluate the current policy and procedures for determining the disposal of irreversible/evident PMU cases of affected pilots in a time bound manner, so that such pilots are not left to the mercy of fate and financial uncertainty.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards

Capt. Surinder Mehta  
President, FIP

cc: DGMS (Air), IAF  
cc: DMS(CA)