



FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

FIP/MOCA/26-16

24 Aug 2026

Shri Ram Mohan Naidu,
Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation,
Government of India, Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan,
New Delhi-110003

**INCLUSION OF THE FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS (FIP) AS A FORMAL
STAKEHOLDER IN AVIATION POLICY FORMULATION
AND SAFETY MATTERS OF MOCA, DGCA, AND AAIB**

Dear Hon'ble Minister,

1. I write on behalf of the **Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP)** to respectfully request the formal inclusion of **FIP as a recognized stakeholder** in the formulation of aviation policies, safety regulations, investigations, and other matters affecting flight operations under the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).
2. The Federation of Indian Pilots is India's **oldest and largest representative body of professional pilots**, comprising current and former airline, corporate, helicopter, and military pilots with extensive operational experience across all sectors of aviation. Pilots are the primary operators of the aviation system and are directly affected by policies relating to safety, fatigue management, training standards, licensing, flight operations, psychoactive substance testing, occurrence reporting, and accident prevention. Despite this, **FIP has historically not been consulted** on several important policy and regulatory initiatives that have a direct bearing on flight safety and operational effectiveness.
3. We respectfully submit that meaningful stakeholder participation is a fundamental principle of modern aviation governance. Leading aviation authorities worldwide, including those in the **United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Singapore, and the European Union, routinely engage pilot associations and professional bodies** while developing regulations and safety initiatives. Such engagement ensures that operational realities are considered, enhances regulatory acceptance, and ultimately strengthens aviation safety outcomes.
4. It is pertinent to note that during interactions with the **Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture (Rajya Sabha)** and the **Public Accounts Committee (PAC)** in **December 2025, assurances** were provided that the Federation of Indian Pilots would be consulted on Aviation Safety and policy matters. However, despite repeated representations and the increasing complexity of India's aviation sector, a structured mechanism for such **consultation has yet to be established.**

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5. India is now one of the fastest-growing aviation markets in the world. With rapid fleet expansion, increasing pilot strength, new airports, and ambitious growth targets, the need for inclusive and evidence-based policymaking has never been greater. Areas such as:

- a) Flight and Duty Time Limitations (**FDTL**) and Fatigue Risk Management Systems (**FRMS**);
- b) **Flight safety** and occurrence reporting;
- c) **Pilot training** and competency standards;
- d) **Psychoactive substance** testing and wellness programs;
- e) **Accident and incident** prevention initiatives;
- f) **Safety Management Systems (SMS)** and confidential safety reporting programmes;
- g) **Runway safety**, unstable approaches, controlled flight into terrain (CFIT), and loss of control prevention;
- h) **Accident and incident investigation** processes and safety recommendations;
- i) **Airspace modernization** and implementation of new technologies;
- j) **Aviation cybersecurity** and emerging operational risks; and
- k) **Policies** affecting pilot recruitment, retention, and professional standards.
- l) **Human factors** and operational risk management; and
- m) **Emerging aviation technologies** and operational procedures,

would greatly benefit from the practical expertise and operational insights available within the Federation of Indian Pilots.

6. Accordingly, FIP respectfully requests that the Ministry consider:

- a) **Recognizing FIP as a permanent stakeholder** for consultation on aviation safety and policy matters.
- b) **Including FIP representatives in relevant committees, working groups, and task forces** constituted by MoCA, DGCA, and AAIB on matters affecting flight operations and aviation safety.
- c) **Establishing a formal consultation mechanism** through which draft regulations, Civil Aviation Requirements (CARs), and significant policy proposals may be shared with FIP for comments and recommendations.
- d) **Inviting FIP participation in safety forums, workshops, and policy discussions** conducted by MoCA, DGCA, and AAIB.
- e) **Institutionalizing pilot representation** in safety-related decision-making processes to ensure that operational perspectives are adequately considered.



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7. As Indian aviation enters a phase of unprecedented expansion, the importance of inclusive, transparent, and **evidence-based policymaking** cannot be overstated. **Safety regulations** are most effective when they are developed with the participation of those who are responsible for implementing them in real-world operations. Pilots represent the operational frontline of aviation safety and possess invaluable practical knowledge derived from daily experience in complex and dynamic environments.

8. The inclusion of FIP will not only **enhance transparency and stakeholder engagement but will also strengthen India's aviation safety framework** by incorporating the experience and expertise of the professionals who operate aircraft on a daily basis. The formal inclusion of the Federation of Indian Pilots in aviation policymaking and safety governance will not only strengthen the quality of regulatory decisions but will also enhance stakeholder confidence, improve safety outcomes, and align India with international best practices. We therefore earnestly request your intervention to institutionalize **FIP's participation in all significant aviation safety and policy matters under MoCA, DGCA, and AAIB.**

9. We sincerely request your kind intervention to ensure that the Federation of Indian Pilots is accorded its rightful role in contributing to the development of aviation policy and safety oversight in India. **We would be grateful for an urgent opportunity to meet and discuss this matter further at your convenience.**

Thank you for your consideration and continued commitment to the safety and growth of Indian aviation.

Yours sincerely,

Warm Regards,
Capt. CS Randhawa,
President, FIP

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, New Delhi-110003.
2. The Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, Parliament House, New Delhi - 110001.
3. The Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi-110001.
4. PMO, Seva Teerth, South Block, New Delhi – 110011.