



Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)

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Context: IndiGo's mass flight cancellations forced the DGCA to grant a one-time exemption from the new Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) rules, raising questions about the regulator's authority and decision-making process.

Overview

- **Full Name:** Directorate General of Civil Aviation
- **Parent Ministry:** Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Establishment:** 1940 (functions under the **Aircraft Act, 1934** and **Aircraft Rules, 1937**)

Functions of DGCA

1 Regulation and Licensing

Issues **pilot licenses, aircraft maintenance engineer licenses, and airline operator permits.**

Certifies **aircraft airworthiness and maintenance organizations.**

2 Safety Oversight

Enforces **aviation safety standards, investigates accidents and incidents.**

Conducts **inspections, audits, and monitoring of airlines.**

3 Air Transport Policy Implementation

Monitors **Scheduled and Non-Scheduled Airline Operations.**

Coordinates with **ICAO** for compliance with international standards.

4 Drone and UAV Regulation

Implements policies under **Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) for drones**, including licensing and safety guidelines.

5 Passenger Rights and Consumer Protection

Enforces **compensation rules** for flight delays, cancellations, and baggage issues.