

Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak Bill

Why In News

- A bill aimed at modernising **India's civil aviation regulations** was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, replacing the **90-year-old Aircraft Act**. Civil Aviation **Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu** presented the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak amid opposition protests over the bill's Hindi title.



- **Opponents, including RSP member N.K. Premachandran**, questioned the rationale behind the bill's Hindi name, arguing that it could be inaccessible to people from South India.



Why Aircraft Act Amended 21 Times

- Under the statement of objects and reasons, the government has said, "**The Aircraft Act, 1934**, has been amended several times to enhance safety, oversight, and to meet requirements for sustainable growth of the aviation sector and to give effect to the provisions of international conventions.



- As a result of numerous amendments over a period of ninety years, a need is felt to **address the ambiguities and confusion experienced** by the stakeholders, to remove redundancies, to enable ease of doing business, to provide for manufacture and maintenance in the aviation sector, and to re-enact the aforesaid Act in the form of a Bill, namely, the **Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024.**"

Enhanced Authority For Civil Aviation Bodies

- **The bill seeks to grant increased powers** to key aviation bodies, including the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), and the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).
- These bodies will **receive broader authority to regulate and oversee** the aviation sector, ensuring stricter compliance and enhanced safety standards.



Directorate General of Civil Aviation

Key Provisions And Regulations

- There are a **total of 44 clauses** in the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024.
- Provide for the **design, manufacture, and maintenance** of aircraft and related equipment.
- Empower the Central Government to **regulate the issuance of Radio Telephone Operator (Restricted) Certificates** and licenses to provide for ease of business.



- Empower the Central Government to make rules **to implement the Convention relating to international civil aviation** and other matters relating to civil aviation security.
- It also empowers the government to make rules to **investigate any accident or incident**; prevent dangers to public health arising from the introduction or spread of any infectious or contagious disease
- **Empower the Central Government** to issue orders in emergencies in the interest of public safety or tranquility.



- Provide for **payment of compensation for loss or damage** in such manner as provided under the Act.
- Provide for **appeals against matters relating** to compensation, licenses, certificates, or approvals, and adjudication of penalties.
- **Provide for imprisonment, fines, or penalties** for contravention of the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder.
- Remove ambiguities and redundancies.
- Provide for the repeal of the **Aircraft Act, 1934**, and the saving of acts done under the said Act.



Conclusion

- Additionally, the **bill establishes norms for the cancellation of licenses** in cases of dangerous flying and provides guidelines for compensating passengers. It also covers the detention, possession, and repossession of aircraft, providing a comprehensive framework for managing aviation operations in India.

