Order

Subject: COVID 19 and Extension of Validity of Licenses, Ratings, Skill Test, Exams for Issue, Renewal and exercising the privileges of Pilot Licenses.

Purpose:

1. Due to impact of COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions arising thereof, training/ recent flying requirements of Flight crew, conduct of checks have been affected.

2. Most of the training organizations, both in India and other ICAO contracting States, are not operating because of which Scheduled/Non-Scheduled operators, and individual license holders are facing issues in completing requirements towards renewal / issuance of Licenses and Ratings, Proficiency and IR checks.

3. Keeping the above in view, the Competent Authority has, in relaxation of the relevant provisions of rules 39C, 41, 42 and Section A.E,F,G,H,I,J,K,M,N,O,P,Q,R,Y & Z of Schedule II of the Aircraft Rules 1937, approved the extension of the validity of licences, ratings and other tests/ examinations, as given below, by 90 days, provided the date of expiry falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive):

(a) Pilot license holders

(i) Pilot Licenses
(ii) FIR, AFIR, IR
(iii) Skill Tests, PPC, ELP
(iv) Medical assessments
(b) For Issuance of licences or rating or Conversion of foreign Licenses

(i) DGCA knowledge papers
(ii) Medical Assessments
(iii) Skill Tests/IR test
(iv) Flying experience requirements during preceding six months

4 The Competent Authority has extended:

(a) the validity of recent experience requirements of three take-off/landing in previous 90 days, as stipulated in CAR Section 8, Series O Parts II, III, IV & V, by 45 days provided date of expiry falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive).

(b) The validity of Foreign Crew Temporary Authorization (FATA) by 90 days provided date of expiry falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive).

5 The above relaxations shall be subject to the following conditions:

A. Commercial Operations (Scheduled/ Non-scheduled)

(CAR Section 8 Series O Part II):

1. Both or either operating pilots, without valid proficiency checks are permitted, provided the Pilot-in-command has recent experience of three take-off/ landing in the previous 90 days (on aeroplane/ simulator) and has more than 500 hours as PIC on type.

2. Both the operating pilot, with valid proficiency checks are not permitted without recent experience of three take-off/ landing in the previous 90 days (on aeroplane/ simulator) except in the case where:

   (i) The Pilot-in-command currency is extended by 45 days subject to Co-pilot meeting the three take-off/landing currency in the previous 90 days and has more than 500 hrs on aeroplane type as Co-pilot.

   (ii) The Co-Pilot currency is extended by 45 days subject to the Pilot-in-command meeting the recent experience of three take-off/landing in the previous 90 days.

3. LVO is not permitted, if either of the pilot is utilising privileges of the licence under extension of proficiency, IR and currency requirements.

4. Pre-flight briefing shall be elaborated and crew to be provided with additional time for pre-flight briefing and detailed cockpit preparation and review of non-normal and emergency procedures.
B. General Aviation (CAR Section 8 Series O Part III):

1. Multi-Crew operations:

1.1 Both the operating pilot, without three take-off/landing currency in the previous 90 days (on aeroplane/simulator) are not permitted.

1.2 Either of the operating pilots, without three take-off/landing in 90 days, is permitted, provided the other pilot has recent experience of three take-off/landing in the previous 90 days (on aeroplane/simulator).

2. Single Pilot Operations:

2.1 The validity of three take-off/landings in 90 days is extended for 45 days provided the pilot has a minimum of 1000 hours total experience and 50 hours experience of single-pilot operations in the preceding 6 months.

3. Pre-flight briefing shall be elaborated and crew to be provided with additional time for pre-flight briefing and detailed cockpit preparation and review of non-normal and emergency procedures.

C. Helicopter Operations (CAR Section 8 Series O Part IV & V):

1. Multi-Crew operations:

1.1 Both or either operating pilots, without valid proficiency checks, are permitted provided the Pilot-in-command has recent experience of three take-off/landing in the previous 90 days (on helicopter/simulator) and has total 1000 hrs experience on helicopter including 200 hrs on type.

1.2 Both the operating pilot, without three take-off/landing currency in the previous 90 days (on helicopter/simulator) are not permitted.

1.3 Either of the operating pilots, without three take-off/landing in 90 days, is permitted, provided the other pilot has recent experience of three take-off/landing in the previous 90 days (on helicopter/simulator).

2. Single Pilot Operations:

2.1 The validity of three take-off/landings in 90 days is extended for 45 days provided the pilot has a minimum of 1000 hours total experience and 100 hours experience of single-pilot operations in the preceding 12 months.

3. Pre-flight briefing shall be elaborated and crew to be provided with additional time for pre-flight briefing and detailed cockpit preparation and review of non-normal and emergency procedures.
D. **Medical Assessment (Rule 39 C of the Aircraft Rules 1937):**

1. The validity of medical assessment for pilots not more than 60 years of age and date of expiry of medical assessment falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive) has been extended by 90 days from the date of expiry of validity period, provided the pilot has not been advised any limitations/recommendations during their previous medical examination, other than the following limitations-

   (i) Subject to wearing of look over glasses while exercising the privileges of the licence and to carry a spare set of spectacles while flying.
   (ii) Advised to use ear defenders in noisy environment.
   (iii) Advised to reduce weight to acceptable BMI by diet control and regular exercises.

2. The validity of medical assessment for pilots not more than 60 years of age and date of expiry of medical assessment falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive) has been extended by 45 days from the date of expiry of validity period, if the pilot has been advised any other limitations/recommendations during their previous medical examination, except those mentioned in para 1 above.

3. The validity of medical assessment for pilots more than 60 years of age and date of expiry of medical assessment falls between 23.03.2020 and 20.06.2020 (both dates inclusive) has been extended by 45 days from the date of expiry of validity period.

4. Operators conducting Multi Crew operations are required to ensure that any crew pairing does not include both the pilots operating under medical assessment validity extension.

E. **Validity of FATA (CAR Section 7 Series G Part II):** The validity of FATA shall be extended provided the foreign license is valid.

This order supersedes DGCA Public Notice of even no. dated 27th March 2020.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Ashutosh Vasistha)
Deputy Director General
For Director General Of Civil Aviation