



CC/ATCG/Operations/2021/06

13.09.2021

**The Director General of Civil Aviation
DGCA Headquarter
Opp. Safdarjung Airport
New Delhi - 110003**

SUB:- Request for Amendment in guidelines on Class 3 Medical Assessment for ATCOs-reg.

Sir,

Reference may please be made to interim guidelines on **Procedure for Class 3 Medical Assessments for ATCOs.**

Refer Para 13 of the said document, the time limit of 90 days at the disposal of DGCA for issuance of fitness certificate in case of TUF/SME appears impracticable. It is important to mention here that before a controller appears in person for medical examination by DGCA medical examiner or IAF Boarding center, a significant time is lost in doing the pre-examination formalities. These pre-examination formalities include sending the medical documents between ATCO, AMA, DGCA and other agencies for approvals / co-ordination. As the ATCO concerned has already been off-channel for a long duration due to his sickness, this further delay of 4-5 months in procedural issue would mean every such controller would definitely lose his Rating Recency and would have to undergo the procedure for revalidation. This in-turn would mean an ATCO who reported sick for one month might not be actually available for next six months due to fitness issues. **It is suggested that maximum time at the disposal of DGCA for issuance of fitness should be brought down to 30 days.**

2. As per Para 19, all cases of sickness or injury less than 20 days to be reported to AAI, AMA for fitness. Here, reference may please be made to Manual of Civil Aviation Medicine, DOC 8984, Part 1, Chapter 1, Para 1.2.33, & Annex 1, Chapter 1, 1.2.6.1.1 Recommendation which specifies the medical conditions requiring advice from a medical examiner before return to operations (relevant pages of Doc 8984 copy attached).

In light of the Annex 1 recommendations and provisions contained in Doc 8984 Manual of Civil Aviation Medicine, it is requested that ATCOs may please be allowed to take medical leaves of less than 20 days on account of any minor illness for which any specialized medical examination is not required, and station ATS in-charges may please be allowed to accept return of such ATCOs to perform operational duties. If required, a list of such minor illnesses may please be published by AMA, AAI.

ATC Guild (India) requests your good office to issue necessary instructions to amend guidelines issued in respect of para 13 & para 19 of Procedure for Class 3 Medical Assessments for ATCOs.

Assuring you best co-operation.

Regards



(Alok Yadav)

General Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Guidelines issues for PROCEDURE FOR CLASS3 MEDICAL ASSESSMENTS FOR ATCOs.
2. Relevant pages of DOC 8984 (Manual of civil Aviation Medicine) & Annex1.

Copy to :

1. The Chairman, A AI, CHQ, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110003
2. The Member (ANS), AAI, CHQ, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110003
3. The Executive Director (CAP), AAI, CHQ, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110003

PROCEDURE FOR CLASS 3
MEDICAL ASSESSMENT FOR
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLE OFFICER (ATCO)

1. An applicant for grant/renewal of a Student Air Traffic Controller's licence or Air Traffic Controller's licence/rating shall hold a valid Class 3 Medical Assessment issued in accordance with the Civil Aviation Requirement CAR Section 7 Series C Part I Issue II dt 12/10/2017 on 'Medical Requirements and Examination for Flight Crew/Air Traffic Controllers Licences and Ratings' (Revised on dated 05 Apr 21).
2. No ATCO shall exercise the privileges of his/her licence/ rating, unless he/she holds a valid Class 3 Medical Assessment.
3. It is therefore important to ensure that ATCOs are examined periodically and if any disability/disease occurs or is detected, a suitable aeromedical decision is taken for the fitness to perform their job.
4. The medical examination shall be carried out as per relevant DGCA procedures and ICAO guidelines on the subject.
5. An Air Traffic Controller, for a Medical Assessment, shall undergo a medical examination based on the following requirements (as per Para 6.5 of Chapter 6 of Annex 1- Personnel Licensing): -
 - (a) Physical and Mental Requirements
 - (b) Visual and Colour Perception
 - (c) Hearing Requirements
6. Class 3 Medical Assessment shall be valid from the date of medical examination for a period, not greater than: -
 - (a) 04 (four) years – For age up to 40 years
 - (b) 02 (two) years – For age above 40 years but up to 50 years
 - (c) 01 (one) year – For age above 50 years

(However, the remainder period of validity after the licence/rating holder attains the age of 40 years or 50 years shall be reduced to half)