



## 4 BUREAU OF CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) is an attached office of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Bureau is responsible for laying down the standards for pre-embarkation security and antisabotage measures in respect of civil flights and ensuring their compliance through regular inspections & security audits. Aim of BCAS is to safeguard civil aviation operations against acts of unlawful interference.

BCAS has its headquarters in New Delhi. It is headed by an Officer of the rank of Director General of Police, designated as Commissioner of Security Civil Aviation (COSCA), who is the designated 'Appropriate Authority' to ensure development, maintenance, updation and implementation of National Aviation Security Programme for India and to fulfill all international obligations in this respect.

It has four Regional Offices at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai, each under a Deputy Commissioner of Security (Civil Aviation), regulating, monitoring and conducting regular security Inspections and audits of the airports in northern, eastern, western and southern regions, respectively.

Bureau has four Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) positioned at International Airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai with latest sophisticated equipment like Robot, Real Time Viewing System (RTVS), Electronic Stethoscope, Explosive Detector etc. These squads have rendered safe some of the sophisticated Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and assisted local police in explosive investigations.

### 4.2 BROAD TARGETS

- (i) Modernization:
  - (a) Adopting IT & electronics equipment & Systems;
  - (b) Redesigning & updation of BCAS website.
- (ii) R&D Database development: for EDP on Security audits, incident investigations & feed back, reports, technology adopted / identified/ available for security related equipment & systems etc.
- (iii) Initiatives to improve Airport Security: by

recommending various Security Procedures, Technology up gradation and modernization of Security related equipment & Schemes.

(iv) Maintenance & Operation of Bomb Detection & Disposal and Dog Squads: for tackling Bomb threats and anti-sabotage requirements at the four Metro International Airports and potentially sensitive airports.

Bureau also has mandatory targets for progressive use of Official Language, Dealing with Staff Grievances, Pollution Control, Women's Welfare activities, ensuring prescribed quota representation of SC/STs & OBCs etc.

The achievements of the Bureau against the aforesaid targets are given in the succeeding paragraphs:

- **Modernisation**

BCAS has formulated an IT Plan for modernization & automation of office procedures. Computerization work is in progress. All staff members have been trained for basic operation. Computers are internally net worked in Local Area network. Financial Software Package has been obtained from the NIC and Official Human Resource Management Software Package is also being installed.

RF link from NIC Headquarters to Bureau is being utilized to enable quick and easy access to Internet and NICNET. E-mail facility has been extended to Senior Officers. Internet connectivity has been provided to enable access to international databases and various Websites of Aviation Security Organizations.

- **Training**

a) Bureau has developed and implemented a National Civil Aviation Security Training Programme (NCASTP) which has been revised in the year 2006 and updated with all changes in AVSEC environment. Aviation Security Training Center located at New Delhi is utilized for the training of Aviation Security staff and employees of airlines and air operators/ executives staff of Airports Authority of India. Training Center has been upgraded further with the



training aids with addition of X-ray BIS testing of screeners and other audio-visual aids such as multimedia projector, visualiser, laptop computer and LCD monitor etc.

b) BCAS has imparted training in AVSEC to airlines, airport operators and airport security staff. It has also been imparting training to CISF personnel at locations to facilitate their smooth induction into Airports Security Duty.

Details of Training Programmes organized by BCAS during the year 2006 is as follows :

- (i) 111 tests were conducted for certification of screeners. A total of 2848 screeners from APSU/Airlines attended the tests out of which 1861 have been certified. This is an increase since last year from a total of 94 tests in which 1050 personnel qualified.
- (ii) 113 Basic AVSEC courses were either conducted or certification was done by BCAS in which 2099 personnel have been trained. This is an increase since last year from a total of 37 tests in which 1058 personnel qualified.
- (iii) Officers of BDDS have also trained 2396 staff of the airport in recognition of IEDs and Bomb Threat Procedure during the year 2006.

• **Contingency Plan**

(i) Bureau has a contingency plan to deal with emergencies arising out of hijacking and other acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation operations. Among other things, it provides for the establishment of Aerodrome Committee at each airport. Crisis Management Procedures are activated immediately on the occurrence of any emergency. Keeping in view the operational requirements, in the changing AVSEC Scenario, the Contingency plan has been suitably modified and issued to all concerned.

(ii) AVSEC Manual on handling Aircraft Hijack Situation has been finalized and will be issued shortly..

a) In order to test the efficacy of contingency plan and operational preparedness of the concerned agencies, mock exercise are being conducted regularly at the airports.

• **R&D Database For AVSEC**

Details of all Inspection Reports, follow-up action, feedback reports, Security Audit Reports, detailed documentation of Incident Investigations etc. are fed on the server through networked desk station. This would enable Bureau to accumulate volume of reliable database for data mining EDP & R&D purpose.

Database on security related technology is also being created.

• **Initiative Taken To Improve Security At Airport**

a) After the attack on Colombo Airport on 24.7.2001, a team from India headed by COSCA visited the Colombo Airport in order to study the methodology adopted by Sri Lankan Terrorists. After detailed study of the incident, 'Quick Reaction Teams' have been positioned at all the metropolitan airports, major airports of Jammu & Kashmir and all airports manned by CISF to pre-empt any similar move at Indian Airports by terrorists.

b) In the aftermath of 11th September 2001 incident in USA, steps were taken to increase the number of flights in which Sky Marshals are deployed. Sky Marshals are now being deployed on all routes on random basis, including the private airlines. Sky Marshals are also deployed to cover Indian Airlines flight to Kabul, Lahore and Dhaka on a regular basis.



Security Personnel checking baggage at the airport

c) It has been decided to induct CISF at all airports in the country to bring in cohesion and uniformity in procedures and practices in regard to security at Airports. At 54 Airports in the country, CISF has already taken over the security duties.

d) A comprehensive schedule for the inspection surprise checks, dummy checks and security audits for ensuring compliance of all AVSEC Orders, Acts & Instructions at all airports has been made to detect weakness in the security system implementation and the same are being taken up for remedial action with concerned agencies.

e) Single Agency System for security of registered baggage has been introduced at Delhi and Mumbai Airport, to be undertaken by Indian Airlines and Air India respectively.

g) Regional Offices have been conducting frequent dummy exercises at international and domestic airport in their regions to test the efficacy of security staff deployed by various agencies.

h) A Security Audit of IGI Airport was carried out by International Security Auditors under the auspices of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) w.e.f 10<sup>th</sup> Jan to 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2005. Review of the ICAO audit will be conducted from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17 Jan, 2007 by ICAO Audit Team.

• **Security Programme Of Scheduled/Non Scheduled Air Carriers**

To ensure the prescribed Security Standards the Security Programmes of the Airlines (both Scheduled & Non Scheduled Carriers) are scrutinized & vetted by the Bureau. So far security programmes of 65 foreign airlines and 118 domestic operations (Scheduled/ Non Scheduled) have been approved.

• **New Airport Entry Card System**

To ensure the secured access control to the airport premises, the Bureau scrutinizes and approves the applications for issue of Airport Entry Photo Identity Cards (PIC) through the PIC Committees and issues airport entry passes and Photo Identity Cards to

officers and staff of various organizations who are directly connected with the civil aviation operations.

Validity of all the permanent AEPs is expiring on 31.12.2007.

Bureau has prepared a proposal for introduction of Smart Card and Biometrics Based Access control and Data Base management System for all airports. It will be compatible with proposed CCTV surveillance system and perimeter intruder system. This would record all entry/ exist in an automated format.

**4.3 ACHIEVEMENTS OF BDDS**

a) There has been no cancellation of flight due to Bomb Threat calls for past seven years (i.e. since the year 1999) and delay in clearance of flight too has been reduced to 2 hours as compared to 6 hours in case of specific Bomb Threat Calls in the past.

b) During this year, the squads responded to 09 Bomb Threat incidents at four International Airports, and 05 Bomb Threat incidents at Domestic airports.

c) 600 Bomb threat calls for unclaimed baggage, 02 bomb threats for terminal building, 12 aircraft calls were attended. The aircraft Bomb Threat Calls included aircrafts of the President of India, 05 foreign aircrafts inside the country, 02 aircrafts of private airlines, 03 of Indian Airlines inside the country, 01 of Air India inside the country.

**4.4 POLLUTION CONTROL**

All newly constructed office buildings of the Regional Offices at Delhi, Chennai & Kolkata ensure clean and green working environment through employees own initiatives and contribution to the efforts towards a pollution free atmosphere. BCAS ensure that all new vehicles are 'Bharat-II' Certified.

Bureau also provides a 'Smoke-free Environment' to its employees.

Apart from the day to day functions Administration Division of BCAS has been making endeavors to ensure compliance of various requirements which emanate from various Government. Directions issued from time to time.

Noteworthy of these are as follows:

#### **4.5 IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

During the year, a 'Hindi Week' was celebrated in Sept. 2006. Extempore speech competition, Hindi Typing, Hindi Dictation, Hindi Essay, Noting & Drafting and Quiz Competitions were organized during the 'Hindi Week'.

A Hindi Workshop for the Officers and Staffs was also organized. Inspections were carried out in all the four Regional Offices, to ensure the progressive use of Hindi in these offices.

Official Language Implementation Committee meetings were held in time, in the Bureau's Headquarters and its Regional Offices.

#### **4.6 STAFF GRIEVANCES CELL**

In pursuance of Government instructions, a Staff Grievances Cell operates in this Bureau with the

Addl. Commissioner of Security, Civil Aviation as Staff Grievances Officer, to deal with the grievances of officers/staff working in this Bureau and its four regional offices. The grievances, are promptly attended to.

#### **4.7 WELFARE ACTIVITIES**

A small library facility and Reading room has been made available to the employees to keep abreast of the current affairs. From time-to-time informal gatherings are arranged so that the work relationships remain amicable. Educational video sessions on various Human Resource Development and Management are proposed to be held in the newly renovated Training Hall, in an effort to train and motivate the employees for efficient and competent output.