



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

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CIVIL AVIATION REQUIREMENTS
SECTION 7 – FLIGHT CREW STANDARDS
TRAINING AND LICENSING

SERIES 'B' PART XVI

17th June 2008

EFFECTIVE : FORTHWITH

Subject: **Seaplane rating-for pilots**

1. INTRODUCTION

Seaplane operation is unique in nature and has its peculiar specialization. The take-off and landing operations from/ to waterbed with varying winds and rapidly changing meteorological conditions pose a challenge to pilots operating seaplane. It is a specialized operation and therefore, pilots engaged in this role are required to be given specific role oriented training.

This CAR lays down the rating requirements for the pilots to be engaged in seaplane operations and is issued under the provisions of Schedule II and Rule 133(B) of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

2. SEA PLANE RATING - Requirements

2.1 For Indian applicants :-

An applicant for seaplane rating must meet the criteria as laid down in sub-
paras (a) to (d) of this para:

(a) Existing rating

- (i) The applicant must have a Commercial Pilot License (CPL) in the fixed airplane category.
- (ii) Applicant must have a rating for the type of airplane similar to that of the seaplane.

(b) Experience

- (i) An applicant for a seaplane rating must have completed a total of 10 (ten) hours of seaplane training, including :
 - (A) minimum of 5 (five) hours dual instruction, and
 - (B) minimum of 5 (five) take-offs and landings as sole occupant of the seaplane, except for 2 (two) crew aircraft, in which case the take-offs and landings must have been done as pilot-in-command (PIC).
- (ii) must have carried out the following exercises during the seaplane training:
 - (A) taxiing,
 - (B) sailing,
 - (C) docking, (action leading to mooring a seaplane safely on water)
 - (D) take-offs, and
 - (E) landings, and
 - (F) as conditions exist, operations on normal water, rough water and in crosswind conditions.

(c) Skill

- (i) Applicant must have attended ground training classes on the subject (as in para 3 of this CAR) at DGCA approved Training Institutes or approved Defence Training Establishments.
- (ii) Within the 12 months preceding the date of application for a seaplane rating, an applicant must have successfully completed a qualifying seaplane training programme under the supervision of a qualified instructor (as in para 3 of this CAR).

(d) Medical requirements

The applicant must have demonstrated compliance with relevant requirements of CAR Section 7 Series 'C' Part I.

2.2 For foreign applicants :-

The holder of a pilot license - airplane category, issued by a ICAO Contracting State, shall be deemed to have met the seaplane training requirements specified above, provided that the applicant:

- (i) has met the requirements as in para 6 of CAR Section 7 Series 'G' Part I dealing with requirements relating to the issuance of Indian Licences and Aircraft Ratings to pilots holding licences and aircraft ratings issued by Contracting States.
- (ii) has demonstrated compliance with relevant requirements of CAR Section 7 Series 'C' Part I dealing with validation of foreign licences of Flight Crew.
- (iii) has completed a minimum of 50 hours flight time as pilot-in-command in seaplanes during the 12 months preceding the date of application for the rating, or
- (iv) has met the prescribed standards of the State concerned, to act as pilot-in-command of seaplanes during the 12 months preceding the date of application for the rating.

3. Ground training programme

3.1 An Indian applicant must have successfully attended a ground training programme under the supervision of a seaplane instructor and must have undergone class room training on the following aspects:-

- (i) Detailed description and salient features of seaplane (such as hulls, floats, their functions, etc.).
- (ii) All possible operational aspects of seaplane.
- (iii) Preflight briefing.
- (iv) Passenger briefing content both in general and in case of eventualities (like positions of exits in case seaplane is inverted).
- (v) Any other important instructions deemed necessary in the programme.

3.2 In addition to the ground training programme, pilots prior to being allowed, shall pass pilot familiarization orientation programme which shall include at least the following :

- (i) familiarization with water body conditions to include difference between landing on a calm lake and landing in lagoon/ river/ sea; difference between landings and takeoffs and awareness on optical illusions.
- (ii) familiarization with wind conditions
- (iii) familiarization with salinity levels in water and corrosion of floats
- (iv) familiarization with mooring techniques
- (v) familiarization with deployment of life rafts, stowage of life rafts, survival techniques in water, dealing with hyperthermia etc.

4. Skill test

The applicant must have met requirements of sub para 2.1 (c) of this CAR and shall have passed the skill test conducted by the DGCA approved examiner pilot to qualify for a seaplane rating.

5. Seaplane Instructor qualification and rating

A seaplane pilot instructor who conducts flight training toward the issuance of a seaplane class rating must have the following qualifications and shall have been approved by the DGCA for the purpose:

- (a) shall be the holder of a minimum Commercial Pilot License (CPL); and
- (b) shall have experience of not less than 50 hours flight time on seaplanes, of which not less than 10 hours must be on the type.

6. Examiner pilot

The examiner pilot (in the context of seaplane) shall meet the relevant criterion as laid down in CAR Section 7 Series 'I' Part III in addition or including that of the seaplane instructor (as in para 4 above) and shall have been approved by the DGCA to carry out functions of examiner pilot i.e. to examine the knowledge level and required skills of an applicant for a seaplane rating.

7. Check flight

Before being allowed to conduct seaplane operation for the first time as a flight crew, a check flight shall be conducted by a DGCA approved and nominated examiner pilot. During the check flight special emphasis shall be on preflight/ passenger briefing done by the seaplane pilot. The check shall be recorded in the pilot log book and training records.



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