

## **Inviting comments/suggestions/views from the members of public and individual/group stakeholders on draft S.O.P. for screening of passengers with prosthetic limb at airport**

In view of a number of complaints received from passengers with prosthetic limbs being removed while frisking during departure from different airports in the country, DG, BCAS constituted a committee vide Office Memo No. CAS-7(1)/2003/Div-I(Physical Disability)-85149 dated 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The term of reference of the committee was to suggest changes, if any, required to be made in the AVSEC Circular No 04/2014 so as to ensure that there is no inconvenience to the passengers with prosthetic limbs in future, but without diluting the standards of security.

Accordingly, the committee met at BCAS HQrs located at 'A' Wing, I-III Floor, Janpath Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi and deliberated on the issue. After taking all the inputs from the sister agencies as well as stakeholders, the following measures were proposed by the committee:

1. During the screening of prosthetics ASG / APSU may use visual check, ETD and X-ray screening depending on the circumstances of each case. This matter needs to be handled with sensitivity.
2. The passenger with prosthetics or braces / support appliances will inform the airline concerned and must be accompanied by an airline representative, preferably of the same gender as the passenger.
3. The passenger should inform the ASG/APSU of the existence of a prosthetic part before the screening begins.
4. The staff of airline and any other accompanying person shall be frisked and checked before allowing them access to the passenger with prosthetics at the screening point.
5. The passenger will first pass through the DFMD and necessary security checks.
6. A prosthetic appliance which does not have any foam padding cover under which any weapon / explosive can be concealed and in which the steel rod of the appliance is clearly visible, may be screened by visual inspection and ETD checks only, without removing it. However, in rare cases where there is sufficient justification including profiling of the passenger, X-Ray screening may be resorted to. The justification for subjecting a prosthetic limb to X-Ray screening shall be recorded by the screener in a register. During visual inspection, care should be taken that sensitive parts are not exposed.

7. Screening of prosthetic appliance covered with foam padding (in which the steel rod of the appliance is not visible) shall include visual inspection, ETD checks and X-ray screening. X-ray screening of such appliances in which a weapon could be concealed under the foam padding will be done in all cases unless it can be physically checked to ensure that no weapon is concealed inside the padding.

8. If X-Ray screening of the prosthetic limb is required, such passenger should be taken to a private screening point and made to sit comfortably for taking off his / her prosthetic limb. While dealing with prosthetic device and during removing and wearing clothes, privacy of the passenger should be maintained along with the proper log entry.

9. If screening of the prosthetic limb is required, then the screening in the private screening area will be carried out by two officials, one to handle HHMD and pat-down and the other to inspect the prosthetics, braces and support appliance and subject them to additional screening.

\*\*\*\*\*

**All concerned are requested to submit their comments, if any, on the draft proposal of the committee on the e-mails: [ddpol.bcas@gov.in](mailto:ddpol.bcas@gov.in) and [ddtrg.bcas@gov.in](mailto:ddtrg.bcas@gov.in) latest by 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.**