

India to Ratify Cape Town Convention

Source: BS

The Union Cabinet has approved the **Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill** to **strengthen India's aviation framework** and align it with global standards.

It aims to ratify and enforce the provisions of the <u>Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Cape Town Convention)</u>, and Protocol on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment (Cape Town Protocol).

Cape Town Convention (CTC):

- About:
 - The CTC is an international treaty that allows creditors, such as lessors, lenders, and financiers, to repossess high-value mobile assets like aircraft, engines, and helicopters if the airline defaults on lease payments.
 - It was adopted in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2001.
- Key Features:
 - International Registry: Establishes a global registry to record interests in mobile equipment, ensuring transparency and prioritizing registered creditors' claims.
 - **Default Remedies:** Provides **clear remedies for creditors,** including the deregistration and export of aircraft without lengthy local legal procedures.
- Cape Town Protocol: It complements CTC and sets out specific rules for aircraft financing and leasing.

India's Status:

- India signed the CTC in 2008 but has not yet ratified it, thus the convention's provisions are not legally binding in India.
- India is the world's third-largest domestic aviation market after the US and China.

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