

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1303  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017)

CHARGING OF PREDATORY FARES FOR CERTAIN SECTORS BY AIR  
INDIA

1303. SHRI D. RAJA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that Air India is charging huge fares for certain sectors like Visakhapatnam-Delhi- Visakhapatnam and Chennai-Delhi-Chennai;
- (b) what are the reasons for Air India levying predatory fares even when planes are only forty per cent booked;
- (c) whether Air India has received complaints on predatory fares on some sectors; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to bring down fares on these and other sectors?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): No, Sir. Air India offers reasonable fares for the sectors Visakhapatnam-Delhi-Visakhapatnam and Chennai-Delhi-Chennai taking competitiveness, relative product strength, seasonality, flight frequency, traffic flows and direct & indirect operations into consideration. Closer to departure, higher fares may be available as low tickets get sold out first.

(b): Air India does not undertake predatory pricing. Pricing of air tickets by Air India is pegged against key competitors on the given route, keeping in view relative product strengths. All fares offered by Air India are transparent, published fares, multi-level with given validity and are not changed arbitrarily to take advantage of the market conditions.

(c) & (d): Queries/Complaints received by Air India regarding predatory fares in the recent past have been responded citing Air India does not undertake predatory pricing.

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