

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 3531
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd April 2023)

BILASPUR-DELHI-BILASPUR AIR SERVICE

3531. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA

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

- (a) whether Bilaspur-Delhi-Bilaspur air service is operational under UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme;
- (b) if so, the reasons for fixing the base fare at Rs 9777 even after Viability Gap Funding (VGF) subsidy; and
- (c) whether Government will make any special provision for monitoring and controlling the fares of flights operating under the UDAN scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a): No Sir.

(b) & (c): Airfares are neither established nor regulated by the Government. Under the provisions of Sub Rule (1) of Rule 135 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, every air transport undertaking engaged in scheduled air services is required to establish tariff having regard to all relevant factors including cost of operation, characteristic of services, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has a Tariff Monitoring Unit that monitors airfares on certain routes on random basis to ensure that the airlines do not charge airfares outside a range declared by them.

While launching UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme in the country in 2016, the Government had capped the Airfare at Rs. 2500 for one-hour flight under UDAN. However, the capping is subject to indexation as per the formula specified in the UDAN Scheme document. As per the provisions of UDAN Scheme, the Selected Airline Operator provides upto 50% of the aircraft seating capacity or maximum 40 seats, whichever is lower, as seats in a fixed wing aircraft under UDAN.
