

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

**Rajya Sabha**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 358**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24th July 2023**

**DRASTIC PRICE ESCALATION OF FLIGHT RATES**

**358. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA**

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

- (a) the reasons for fare escalation on all routes, in particular of flights from low-income States such as Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh;**
- (b) the regulatory steps being taken to rationalize fare and sustain financial viability of flights; and**
- (c) the number of flights which have been discontinued in the last one year from major cities of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, route-wise detail thereof and reasons for the same?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

**(a) & (b) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has established Tariff Monitoring Unit which monitors fares on select sectors on random basis. This ensures that the airfares charged by the airlines are within the established tariff of the airlines, which is displayed on their website. The increase in airfare noticed in a few sectors is primarily driven by seasonality and demand-supply constraints. The increase in airfare is also attributable to increase in fuel prices. Government has taken steps to sensitise the airlines. Consultations are held with airlines to keep passenger interest in mind and exercise moderation. The airfares in these select sectors are monitored daily and as a result of which they have shown a declining trend.**

**(c) There has been a reduction in flight movements per week in 2023 vis-a-vis 2022 at Raipur in Chhattisgarh and Jabalpur and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh. At the same time, increase has been observed at Indore and Khajuraho airports during the corresponding periods.**

**Airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type, free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of**

**different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.**

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