GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION **RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO : 10** (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4th December 2023)

INCREASE IN FLIGHT FARES DURING FESTIVALS

*10. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that airlines increase their fares manifold during festivals, making it impossible for the general public to avail the benefits of air travel during festivals;

(b) the difference of fares of flight going to Bihar during Diwali and Chhath festival in November 2023 as compared to normal days; and

(c) the details of fares for flights going to all airports of Bihar from January to November 2023?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) to (c) A STATEMENT IS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Statement referred in reply to Part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred Ques. No. 10 regarding "Increase in flight fares during festivals" to be answered on 04.12.2023.

(a) As per prevailing regulations, airfare is neither established nor regulated by the Government. Under the provision 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 and generally prevailing tariff.

The airline fare system runs in multiple levels (buckets or RBDs) which are in line with practice being followed globally. The fares are fixed by airlines keeping in mind the market, demand, seasonality and other market forces. The airfare increases with increase in demand of seats as the lower fare buckets get sold out faster and move to higher fare buckets.

(b) & (c) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has established Tariff Monitoring Unit which monitors fares on select domestic 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. As the monitoring is done on variable routes selected on random basis, the entire data for all sectors on airfare is not maintained by DGCA.

All scheduled domestic airlines publish their Tariff Sheet on their websites, in compliance to Rule 135(2) of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 in order to bring transparency to passengers.
