GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

Rajya Sabha

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 661 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29th July 2024

OPEN SKY POLICY

661. SHRI A. A. RAHIM

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

- (a) the number of airports in the country currently included in the ASEAN/SAARC Open Sky Policy;
- (b) whether it has come to the attention of Government that the flight fares from Kannur Airport are increasing due to non-availability of Point of Call status as well as other reasons and it is causing distress to people; and
- (c) whether Government is ready to include Kannur Airport in the Open Sky Policy and the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- a) There are 18 tourist destinations in the country currently included in the ASEAN/SAARC Open Sky Policy.
- b) Airfares are market driven and under the provisions of Rule 135(1) of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, airlines are free to fix tariffs, having regard to all relevant factors, including cost of operation, characteristics of services, generally prevailing tariff etc. The airline fare system runs in multiple levels (buckets or Reservation Booking Designators) which are in line with practice being followed globally. The fares are fixed by airlines keeping in mind the market, demand, seasonality, prevailing international scenarios 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. DGCA's Tariff Monitoring Unit (TMU) ensures

that the fares being charged by the airlines are as per the tariff established by the airlines.

c) Presently. there is no proposal under consideration of the Government.
