

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20th July 2026
AIRLINE SURCHARGES AND ADDITIONAL AIRFARE
COMPONENTS

1. SHRI A. A. RAHIM

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

(a) details of surcharge and additional fare levied over and above the base airfare;

(b) whether Government has examined that the surcharge and additional charges levied by airlines are commensurate with the prevailing prices of ATF and other operating costs, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has noticed that reductions in crude oil or ATF prices were not correspondingly reflected in the additional charges collected by airlines, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to issue any guidelines or establish a mechanism to ensure that reductions in ATF prices are reflected in airfares and additional charges levied?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): In general, the total fare charged by airlines consists of Basic Fare, User Development Fees, Convenience Fee (on booking through website), Regional Connectivity Charge (RCS), CUTE (Common User Terminal Equipment), Aviation security Fees (AFS)/ Passenger Service Fees and GST.

However, during mid-March 2026, Indian carriers introduced Fuel Surcharge due to West Asia crisis.

The Fuel surcharge introduced in March 2026 was revised by the airlines in the month of April 2026 based on flight distance.

The pricing of airfares is influenced by dynamic fluctuations based on the fundamental economic forces of supply and demand. Various determinants such as current seat occupancy,

fuel costs, aircraft capacity, seasonal fluctuations and other relevant factors significantly impact airline ticket pricing.

The Government generally refrains from regulating airfares to maintain market competitiveness, however, it retains vigilant oversight role, intervening in exceptional circumstances by redistributing capacity across various sectors and imposing temporary fare caps, such as during the Covid Pandemic, festivals like Maha kumb or other extraordinary instances like Pahalgam incident & the Indigo flight disruptions.
