

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3291
(To be answered on the 15th March 2018)**

Reservation of Seats in Air India for Medical Emergency

3291. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any proposal of Air India (AI) to reserve adequate seats for last minute booking with affordable fares, for persons travelling in medical emergency and persons accompanying dead bodies or for the next of kin in case of bereavement in a family, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any proposal of Air India to give concession to financially weak students who are going for higher studies to far off areas of the country and cannot afford air travel, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the social obligations of airline companies operating in the country?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): No, Madam. However, due priority is accorded to all such cases to accommodate in first available flight. Special handling is also undertaken free of charge and patient are provided Wheel Chair or Ambulift facilities for Stretcher cases passengers in case of requirement.

(b): Air India offers 50% concession on the Basic Fare to all students in the age range of 12-26 yrs. on the date of commencement of journey. A student studying in India, enrolled for a full time course of at least one academic year at an educational establishment recognised / aided by / or affiliated to any Central / State Govt. educational board, University etc is eligible. The ticket has to be purchased 7 days in advance. The discount is offered on top ten levels of economy class fares.

(c): Air India offers Round the year 50% concession on the Basic Fare on the selling fare for the following as part of its social obligation:

(५) **Blind Persons:** Only for those persons who are totally blind and are

resident of India.

(ii) **Cancer patients:** Only for those persons who are Resident of India and suffering from Cancer and are travelling for the purpose of medical check-up/treatment.

(iii) **Locomotor Disability:** Disabled persons suffering from locomotor disability to the extent of 80% and above and are residents of India. Conditions falling under this category include cases of- Paraplegia, Hemiplegia, Cerebral palsy, severe cases of Poliomyelitis, Kyphosis, Muscular dystrophies, Amputees.

(iv) **Senior Citizens:** A Senior citizen of Indian Nationality, permanently residing in India and should have attained the age of 60 years on the date of commencement of journey.
