

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1752  
(To be answered on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018)**

**RATIONALISATION OF AIR FARE**

1752. PROF K.V. THOMAS

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION  
नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the air fare of many other domestic and foreign airlines fluctuate continuously;
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to rationalize both domestic and international air fares;
- (c) the number of international flights operating to India and abroad;
- (d) whether there is any restriction for the opening of new sectors; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION  
नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): The pricing of air tickets is decided by each airline based on market dynamics and managed through their inventory management process. Airlines offer fares at various levels, which are driven by market forces. The airfares increase with the increase in demand as the lower fare buckets get sold out first. This is a global practice followed in the airline industry. Airlines are free to fix reasonable tariffs under the provision of sub-rule (1) of Rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937 having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of service, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing traffic. However, airlines remain compliant with the regulatory provisions of sub-rule 2 of Rule 135 as long as the fare charged by them does not exceed the fare established and displayed on their website. The airline operators themselves take decision with regard to increase in frequency depending upon commercial viability of routes and availability of resources.

(b): There is no such proposal at present.

(c): As per Winter Schedule, 2018, the Indian carriers are operating 2203 flights per week while foreign carriers are operating 2262 flights per week to/from India.

(d) & (e): No Madam. Indian carriers are free to operate flights from any airports in India to foreign destinations as per agreed bilateral arrangements and capacity entitlements with that country.

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