# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 1446 (To be answered on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022)

### **POLICY ON AIRFARE**

### 1446. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI

# Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to change the policy of capping prices on the domestic airfare to make air travel accessible and affordable to the general public; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **ANSWER**

# Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) & (b) Under normal circumstances, airfares are neither established nor regulated by the Government. With the repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the provision of tariff approval was dispensed with by the Government. Airlines are free to fix the reasonable tariff under the provision of Sub-rule (1) of Rule 135 of Aircraft Rules, 1937.

However, due to the unprecedented circumstances prevailing due to COVID-19 pandemic, fare bands with upper and lower limits were introduced by the Government invoking power under Section 8B of the Aircraft Act, 1934 as a temporary measure. The fare bands serve the dual purpose of protecting the interests of the travelers as well as of the airlines, and have been revised from time to time. Fare capping is, presently, applicable on a rolling basis for a 15 days' cycle.