

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 4691  
(To be answered on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022)**

**AIR TICKETS FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED SPORTS PARTICIPANTS**

**4691. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government is sponsoring the air tickets for the differently abled sports participants of Special Olympics, Paralympics, which includes Asian Games, Commonwealth games and World Championship and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is not sponsoring the air tickets for the differently abled sports participants for the international events which are qualifier for the Paralympics;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take necessary steps to grant at least fifty per cent concessions in air tickets for the eligible participants to participate in the international events; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))**

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(a) to (e): As per inputs received from Department of Sports, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports extends financial assistance to the National Sports Federations (NSFs) for various sports activities including training and participation of Indian sportspersons and teams in international tournaments. Excursion/Economy air fare from residence / camp to the destinations is extended under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs. Booking of Air Tickets will be done through three Authorized Travel Agents viz. i) M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL), ii) M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT) and iii) Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) in terms of the Department of Expenditure's OM dated 31.12.2021.

No concessions are offered by the Government as airfares are neither regulated nor established by the Government whether international or

**domestic. Airlines are commercial organizations which fix air fares based on interplay of market forces. Also, providing concessions in air tickets is airline prerogative. Government does not interfere in the commercial activities of the airlines.**

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