

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.30  
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024**

**IMPACT OF INCREASING AIRFARE ON TOURISM**

**30 THIRU DAYANIDHI MARAN:**

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any recent assessments or studies to analyze the impact of increasing airfares on domestic tourism and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is working with airlines and regulatory bodies to promote transparent pricing and ensure that air travel remains affordable for domestic tourists and if so, the details of action taken so far;**
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the financial impact on local tourism businesses i.e. hotels, restaurants, tour operators that may be experiencing a downturn due to reduced tourist numbers;**
- (d) whether there is any collaboration underway between the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Civil Aviation to address airfare increases, possibly through subsidies or incentives for domestic tourism; and**
- (e) the details of the long-term strategies of the Government to ensure that domestic tourism can thrive without being significantly impacted by fluctuations in travel costs, especially airfares?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

**(a) to (e): No such studies have been conducted by the Ministry of Tourism to analyze the impact of increasing airfare on domestic tourism.**

**Ministry of Civil Aviation has informed that Airfares are neither established nor regulated by the Government. Under the provisions of the Aircraft Rules 1937, every air transport undertaking engaged in**

**scheduled air services is required to established tariff having regard to all relevant factors, including cost of operation, characteristic of services, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff. Airlines are free to charge reasonable airfares as per their operational viability subject to compliance to the above said rule.**

**Effective and adequate connectivity is one of the important aspect for developing a tourist destination. For this purpose, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India has launched RCS-UDAN scheme, whose primary objective is to facilitate/stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with the Ministry of Civil Aviation to extend financial support in the form of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) under the Champion Service Sector Scheme (CSSS), with the purpose of further improving connectivity to important tourist places including Iconic sites.**

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