

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1980
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11th December 2025)

HIGH AIR FARES ON NORTH EASTERN STATES ROUTES

1980. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE
SHRI CHAVAN RAVINDRA VASANTRAO

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has received any request or representation from the North Eastern States regarding unusually high air fares on routes connecting North Eastern States to other major cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to regulate or rationalise airfares on these routes to ensure affordability for passengers and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to increase flight frequency and improve airline connectivity to North Eastern States from major cities of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering any long-term measures to stabilise airfare fluctuations in the North-Eastern region; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the proposed road map for the same?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (c): Airfares are not subject to regulation by the Government and airlines have the flexibility to determine their airfares based on their operational needs, while adhering to Rule 135 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. The pricing of airfares is subject to dynamic fluctuations influenced by the fundamental economic forces of supply and demand. Various determinants such as current seat occupancy, fuel costs, aircraft capacity, seasonal fluctuations and other relevant factors significantly impact airline ticket pricing.;

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Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), on receiving concern regarding high airfare to/from Imphal, conducted meeting with the scheduled domestic airlines viz. Indigo, Air India Express & Alliance Air operating to/from Imphal on 06th Nov, 2025.;

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During meeting, it was advised to airlines to moderate the airfares keeping passengers' interest in mind and to rationalize their tariff sheets to be transparent and user-friendly. Airlines were also advised to ensure effective utilization of all available seats while maintaining fare affordability.;

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(d) to (f): During aforementioned meeting, airlines were also advised to consider increasing capacity in order to ensure uninterrupted travel and smoother passenger movement.;

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Furthermore, under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), a total of 164 priority routes have been awarded for fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter operations in the North Eastern States, out of which 90 routes have been operationalised. Under the scheme, 7 Airports and 2 Heliports have been operationalized in the North Eastern Region.;

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To further strengthen and expand regional air connectivity, the Government has announced the launch of the modified UDAN Scheme to increase regional connectivity to 120 new destinations across the country, to cater to 4 crore passengers over the next 10 years. The scheme will also support helipads and smaller airports in hilly, aspirational, and North East region districts. The scheme is currently at the formulation stage.
