

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. : 396

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th March 2026)

COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AIRFARE TRENDS

396. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a high-level committee including Members of Parliament, aviation experts and consumer representatives to examine excessive airfare increases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the proposed committee would examine airfare trends during festive seasons, emergencies and peak travel periods and if so, the scope, mandate and timeline of the committee's work;

(c) whether the representatives of common passengers and consumer protection bodies would be included in the committee to ensure transparency and accountability and if so, the details of the selection criteria and representation framework thereof;

(d) whether the committee would recommend mechanisms for fare regulation, price caps or monitoring systems to prevent exploitation of passengers and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government would provide the committee's recommendations in public domain and implement binding guidelines based on its findings and if so, the proposed timeline and implementation strategy thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 396 FOR REPLY ON 19.03.2026 REGARDING "COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AIRFARE TRENDS" BY SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH

(a) to (e): Airfares are not subject to regulation by the Government after repeal of Air Corporations Act, 1994. Airlines have the flexibility to determine their airfares based on their operational needs, while adhering to Rule 135 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

The airfare established by the airlines are 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.

The Government generally refrains from regulating airfares to maintain market competitiveness, however, it remains vigilant oversight role, intervening in exceptional circumstances by redistributing capacity across various sectors and imposing temporary fare caps, such as during COVID Pandemic, festivals like Maha kumb, Pahalgam incident & more recently during Indigo flight disruptions in early December, 2025.

In order to enhance the transparency in airfare, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has set-up Tariff Monitoring Unit (TMU) that monitors airfares on selected 78 routes on a random basis by using airlines websites on monthly basis to ensure that the airlines do not charge airfares outside the range declared by them. This covers about 27% of the domestic traffic. ; The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has developed a dedicated "Air Fare" grievance module on the AirSewa platform to address concerns related to excessive airfares charged by domestic airlines.

Further, the Ministry has established, 24x7 Passenger Assistance Control Room (PACR) to enhance passenger-centric governance. This initiative integrates MoCA, DGCA, AAI, and airlines for real-time monitoring of flight disruptions, baggage issues, and refunds, aiming to accelerate grievance redressal and improve the overall travel experience. Many passengers have expressed satisfaction that their grievances are acknowledged and resolved promptly, and have conveyed their appreciation.
