

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3050**  
( TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th December 2025 )

**AIR FARE REGULATION FOR FESTIVE SEASONS**

3050. SHRI K C VENUGOPAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has any plans to introduce regulatory measures such as capping or controlling airfares during school vacations and peak festival seasons for both domestic and international flights, particularly in view of the upcoming Christmas and New Year period in December 2025-January 2026 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of airfare trends and fare surges observed during previous festive seasons during the last three years;

(c) whether any directives for maintaining rigorous oversight on fares are in place and if so, the specifics thereof including monitoring mechanisms and penalties for non-compliance; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the alternative steps proposed to be taken to ensure affordable air travel during peak periods without compromising airline viability?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (d): 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. ;

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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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The government generally refrains from regulating airfares to maintain market competitiveness, however, it remains vigilant oversight role, intervening in exceptional circumstances, such as during Pandemic, Maha kumb, Pahalgam attack in Srinagar & recently massive flight disruptions by Indigo airline.;;

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In such instances, Government imposed temporary fare caps or redistribute capacity across various sectors to mitigate excessive pricing, ensuring the comfort and welfare of passengers.;

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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. By doing so, the TMU plays a critical role in maintaining airfare levels within the boundaries of the airlines' prescribed tariffs.;

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