

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2321

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2006

LIMITATION RESTRICTION ON TICKETS TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Paswan Shri Virchandra

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Indian Airlines(IA) and Air India (AI) manage a few seats at 50 per cent discounts to senior citizens in their flights in the domestic and international sectors;
- (b) if so, the details of total number of seats in a flight of IA/AI and the number of seats out of those allotted to senior citizens;
- (c) whether after exhaustion/non-availability of these seats, full fare is charged from the rest of the senior citizens for that particular flight;
- (d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the IA/AI propose to increase more seats at 50 per cent discounts for the senior citizens in their flights;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): Air India has an Automated Revenue Management system whereby they have different levels of fares in Economy Class. Depending on the seasonality and demand, a certain number of seats including those for discounted senior citizens are released for sale in each booking class. If all seats in the lowest class are sold, then the passengers have to buy a ticket in the next higher class at marginally higher fares.

As regards Indian Airlines, reservation for all concessional tickets including tickets issued for Senior Citizens, are restricted to the discounted booking class having a fixed number of seats allocated to it. This is in accordance with the standard Yield Management in Reservation System and is based on Industry norms wherein a quota of seats is allowed for different fare types. Indian Airlines has also introduced yield management in Reservation System to ensure that there is optimal utilization of the capacity available and that there is no dilution of revenue also.

(e), (f) and (g): No, Sir. Both Air India and Indian Airlines are commercial organization and have to act on business principles. Any further increase in concessional tickets, including those for senior citizens, will affect the viability of operations.