

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:639

ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004

INCREASE IN AIR FARES

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether public and private Airlines operating in the country have increased their fares and freight charges recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure nominal increase; and
- (d) the steps being taken to ensure corresponding improvements in facilities?

Answer

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

(a) & (b):- Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Air Sahara have increased domestic Rupee fare by 10% effective 21st June, 2004 with a view to offset the increase in fuel cost. There has been no increase in freight charges.

(c):- Air fares are not regulated by the Government and the airlines are free to charge air fares as per their commercial judgement.

(d):- Though the rise in airfare is to offset the rise in fuel cost, the competitive market ensures that the airlines constantly endeavour to upgrade and add value to the product offered to the passengers.