

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2553  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011  
ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR CHOICE SEATS  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has asked the airlines to withdraw the additional charge for choice seats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the airlines in this regard, airline-wise;
- (c) whether an additional charge ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 400 has to be paid by the travellers for seats in the front and emergency rows;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, airline-wise;
- (e) whether low-cost carriers Spicejet, IndiGo and GoAir as well as Air India Express have charged this extra money from the travellers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the steps taken by DGCA/Government to recover this amount from airlines?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d):- It was observed that few scheduled domestic airlines were charging an amount of Rs. 50/- to Rs. 400/- for seat assignment, which is over and above the fare charged by the airlines. It was also observed that some airlines were charging this amount for the entire seat inventory.

With a view to maintain transparency in tariff publication, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has written to scheduled domestic airlines on 15th July, 2011 to withdraw such charges on immediate basis.

Accordingly, scheduled airlines viz. Air India Express, Spicejet, Go Air and IndiGo have withdrawn seat assignment w.e.f. 29th July, 2011.

(e):- Yes, Madam.

(f):- Such type of data is not maintained by this Ministry.