

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3322

ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012

GROUND HANDLING CHARGES AT AIRPORTS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Airport Authority of India has increased /proposes to increase the charges for ground handling services across various airports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the salient features of this new policy;
- (d) the justification for increase in the said charges when the fares are already high and there is a slump in growth in the aviation sector;
- (e) whether the airlines have been consulted before announcing increase in the charges; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c): The Ground Handling operations at an airport managed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) is carried out as per the provisions of AAI (General Management, Entry for Ground Handling Services) Regulations 2007, which aims to provide world class facilities to the passengers at the airport with safe and secure journey. The regulation of Ground Handling (GH) charges at major airports is done by Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA). For non -major airports, at present there is no regulation of GH charges, but the GH agencies pay a royalty to AAI for utilization of the facilities at an airport. The, tariff charged by ground handling agencies are determined by themselves between the airlines and agencies based on market process. Government or AAI has no role in this regard.

(d) to (f): Not applicable in view of (a) to (c) above.