

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1186
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014
AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT FEE
Hemamalini Smt. ;Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the airports in the country are charging user fee/development charges from the domestic and international passengers and if so, the details thereof, airport and category-wise;
- (b) the details of complaints, if any, received by the Government in this regard during the last three years and the current year along with the action taken thereon;
- (c) the names of such airports in the country where airport development fee was cancelled by the Government in the first instance and subsequently allowed to be charged along with the reasons therefor and the amount collected from these airports during the said period; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to reduce airport user fee/development charges and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) No, Madam. Presently, Airports Authority of India (AAI) is levying and collecting Development Fee (DF) at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), New Delhi and Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport (CSIA), Mumbai from each domestic and international embarking passenger @ Rs.100/- and Rs.600/- respectively.

(b) & (c) Concerns were raised by several quarters regarding levy of Development Fee from the users as determined by Government of India on ad-hoc basis @ Rs. 200/- per embarking domestic passenger and Rs. 1300/- per embarking international passenger at Delhi airport and @Rs. 100/- per embarking domestic passenger & Rs. 600/- per embarking international passenger for Mumbai airport. This levy was challenged before various appellate fora and finally the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide judgment dated 26.4.2011 in the Civil Appeal No. 3611 of 2011 upheld the levy of DF and ordered that no DF can be levied or collected from embarking passengers at major airports unless the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) determines the rate of such DF. Accordingly, the levy of DF at IGIA, Delhi and CSIA, Mumbai airports was stopped with effect from 1.6.2011 and 27.4.2011 respectively on account of court directions. However, after complying with the requirement stipulated in the court judgment dated 26.04.2011, the levy of DF was again started at IGIA, Delhi @Rs.200/- per embarking domestic passengers & @Rs.1300/- per embarking international passenger w.e.f. 01.12.2011 and the same was revised to Rs.100/- per embarking domestic passenger and Rs.600/- per embarking international passenger w.e.f. 01.01.2013. In respect of CSIA, Mumbai, the levy was again started @Rs.100/- per embarking domestic passengers & @Rs.600/- per embarking international passenger with effect from 1.5.2012.

(d) Government of India has established an autonomous regulatory agency namely, AERA for determination of aeronautical tariff and Development Fees at major airports in the country. Accordingly, AERA determines aeronautical tariff and Development Fees for the major airports as per its regulatory philosophy.