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Title: Regarding hike in prices of Private Airline Carriers operating between Agartala and Kolkata.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): The Private airline carriers have suddenly hiked the prices of the Agartala-Kolkata route with a flying distance of 310 kilometres only. As against the average price of Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 per ticket on this route, tickets are now reportedly being sold for Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 each which is astonishing and completely unacceptable.

Jet Airways at Agartala Airport has wound up its office at Agartala Airport and has withdrawn all its flights altogether on Agartala-Kolkata and other routes. Spice Jet has also withdrawn some flights as a result of which the employees of the organization are rendered jobless apart from causing serious inconvenience to the passengers traveling in this sector, particularly students studying outside the State and patients going to Kolkata for better treatment.

It may also be mentioned in this connection that there is an urgent necessity to introduce early morning and late evening flights on the Agartala – Kolkata – Agartala sector to handle the huge rush and also to provide connectivity to the people of Tripura with other parts of India particularly, Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru etc.

I would also like to mention here that the State Government has handed over the land to the Airports Authority of India but the construction of a new terminal building at Agartala airport has not started. It is requested that the officials concerned may be directed to start the work at the earliest. It is my earnest request.