36	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]		Starred Questions
1	2	3	4	5
20.	Manipur	118.31	887316	86.65
21.	Meghalaya	59.75	58.03	43.80
22.	Mizoram	186.85	707.763	153.445
23.	Nagaland	34.115	337595	30.333
24.	Odisha	390.95	315.331	331.2651
25.	Punjab	36.26	25.12	00
26.	Rajasthan	496.746	348.068	291.387
27.	Sikkim	240.93	183.78	131.793
28.	Tamil Nadu	518.67	334.449	256.027
29.	Tripura	13.00	2.84	00
30.	Uttar Pradesh	274.45	296.179	204.371
31.	Uttarakhand	145.08	134.90	201.144
32.	West Bengal	381.318	276.385	246.425
33	Daman and Diu	6.05	00	00
	Total	7357.442	7438.183	6873.643

## Exploitation of passengers by airlines

- \*158. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that air fares on Delhi-Mumbai-Delhi sector had shot up this Diwali season, exorbitantly;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there is no rationality to market dynamics and the rise in air fares during the festive season is plain exploitation of passenger compulsion;
  - (c) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) the steps Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken against private airlines for such exploitation of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The airfares are not regulated by the Government and the airlines follow dynamic airfare policy.

They offer different fare buckets for each flight. The fare-buckets vary from flight to flight. The airfares are dynamic and they increase with the increase in demand for seats. From September, 2012 the scheduled domestic airlines have introduced a lowest fare bucket for advance purchase.

Scheduled domestic airlines have been asked to display established tariff routewise and fare category-wise on monthly basis and also to notify noticeable changes to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) within 24 hrs. of affecting such a change. The intention behind the above directions is to keep the passengers informed of pricing pattern of airlines.

Further, DGCA also monitors tariff on specific sectors on regular basis.

## Expenditure on environmental protection and afforestation

\*159. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in Gujarat 9.18 lakh hectares of land has been covered under environmental protection and afforestation;
  - (b) the quantum of funds spent on the same by the State Government of Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Central Government intends to meet at least 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred by Gujarat and other States; and
  - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the State Government of Gujarat, about 8.23 lakh ha area has been covered under afforestation in the State during the last ten years, incurring an investment of Rs. 2510.65 crores.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) provides funds to the States/Union Territories under various afforestation schemes/programmes as per the availability of budget and requirements of the States/Union Territories. MoEF