

(b) Air India has shown steady increase in passenger carriage and upliftment of cargo over the period.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Malpractice by Private Airlines

146. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government mulls any action to curb the tendency of private airlines to increase the air-fare in certain sectors abruptly to take advantage of the situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware of such malpractices by the private operators;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government aims to reduce time of actual checking of the passenger's possessions and luggage in the airports by half; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA): (a) to (d) Airlines are free to fix reasonable tariff under the provision of sub-rule (1) of rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937 having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristic of service, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff. The airline pricing runs into multiple levels (buckets or RBDs) which are in line with the practice followed globally. The lower fare in the fare buckets is available for advance booking much earlier. As time lapses and the date of journey approaches closer, the fare in higher side of fare bucket is made available as per the respective airline policy. Airline remains compliant to the regulatory provisions of Rule 135 as long as the fare charged by them does not exceed the fare established and displayed on their website.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Drunk pilots

147. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) The number of cases of drunk pilots reporting for flying duty, which came to the notice of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) during the last three years; year-wise and Airlines-wise;