

Privatisation of major airports in the country

33. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal and plans to privatize some of the major airports in the country including Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Ahmedabad etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has unveiled any new plans to increase revenue generation from the Communication, Navigation, Surveillance (CNS) and Air Traffic Services (ATS) in the domestic and international airports in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the total revenue generated from these airports in the last three years, year-wise, airport-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. However, Government of India (GoI) intends to undertake the Operation, Management and Development of Chennai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad and Jaipur airports through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Airports Authority of India (AAI) has issued Request for Qualification documents on 30.12.2014.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, the revenue generated during the last three years from Chennai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad and Jaipur are given below.

(₹ in crores)

Airports	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Chennai	690.05	908.32	1022.80
Kolkata	357.05	630.62	668.93
Ahmedabad	196.23	217.93	229.72
Jaipur	78.59	87.20	92.56

Status of crews and ground staffs of Kingfisher airlines

34. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fleet of Kingfisher Airlines has been grounded for good; and

(b) if so, the number of crews and ground staffs who have lost their jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Kingfisher Airlines stopped their scheduled operation

from 1.10.2012. Their Air Operator's Permit (AOP) has also lapsed with effect from 31.12.2012.

(b) Ministry does not maintain such details.

Cap on air fare during festive seasons

35. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after reducing check-in luggage from 20 kg to 15 kg the domestic airlines are in the process of adopting new techniques of charging check-in luggage;

(b) if so, the complete details of proposal of the air carriers and reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that domestic airlines charge exorbitant rates during festival seasons; and

(d) if so, the details of steps Government proposes to take to cap the air fares during festival seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Under the provision of existing regulations, airlines are free to fix reasonable charges/fees for the services being offered by them which include charges for check-in baggage above 15 kgs.

(b) In order to make the basic fare more affordable and to provide the customer an option of paying for the services which he/she wishes to avail, it has been decided by the Government to allow check-in baggage charges above 15 kgs. of free check-in baggage allowance, to be unbundled and to be charged separately on opt - in basis of the passenger. The charges for such services is required to be fixed amount and displayed on the respective website of the airlines.

(c) The domestic airline pricing runs in multiple levels (bucket or Reservation Band Designator) which are in line with the practice being followed globally. The lower fare bucket offered by airlines is available for advance booking. These fares are highly discounted fares and that would entail travelling even during peak/festive season on low fares. As time lapses and date of journey approaches closer, the fare in higher side of fare bucket is made available as per the respective airline policy. Air fares are not regulated by the Government as they are determined by the interplay of market forces. Airline remains compliant to the regulatory provisions of Aircraft