

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 659
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10th February 2025)

LAUNCH OF UDAN YATRI CAFES AT AIRPORTS

659. SHRI JAGGESH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that a recent survey by local circles showed that majority of airline passengers find food and beverages sold at airports excessively priced;
- (b) whether most of the food items on sale, particularly fresh products that are cooked or reheated at the food outlet, are generally very highly priced;
- (c) whether Government proposes to launch "UDAN Yatri Cafe," a unique initiative to provide affordable meals to passengers at airports across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and how soon these cafes will be launched at all airports across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): The Airports in the country offer a variety of food and beverage options catering to the diverse preferences and demands of passengers. Food items, including tea, snacks, and meals, are available at varied price ranges to accommodate the budgets of different passenger segments.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has introduced the concept of 'Udan Yatri Cafe' at Kolkata Airport as a new initiative to offer affordable meals to passengers.

The introduction of 'Udan Yatri Cafe' or similar low-cost outlets at other airports is at the discretion of the respective airport operators. Prices of non-aeronautical activities, including food and beverage services, are determined by airport operators and concessionaires based on market dynamics and commercial considerations, as they are not regulated by the Government. Furthermore, 30% of the non-aeronautical revenue (including food and beverages) generated by airports is used to cross-subsidize aeronautical charges, leading to lower ticket prices for passengers.
