

Conditions for concession to Senior Citizens

*120 SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to further relax the conditions for giving concessions on air fares to senior citizens and students in the domestic sectors on Air India, Indian Airlines and Alliance air;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the age prescribed for being a senior citizen; and

(c) what are the concessions available under various categories including Apex and Super-Apex fares on these airlines and the reasons for not providing these fares on Delhi-Srinagar and Delhi-Bhubaneswar sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines offers a number of discounts/concessions to various categories of travelling public based on social obligations. The annual impact of these discounts was estimated at Rs. 64.14 crores. Keeping in view the severe financial constraints of Indian Airlines, the entire issue of withdrawal/continuation of these concessions or providing subsidy to Indian Airlines on this account was reviewed by the Government. It was, *inter alia*, decided to continue the Senior Citizen concession and student concession with the following modifications:-

Senior Citizen Concession:

Conditions before modifications	Conditions after modifications
Concession for both Indian and Foreign Nationals	Concession for Indian national residing in India
All types of journeys by Economy Class	For Round trip and circle trip travel only
No minimum stay requirement	Minimum stay for seven days at destination
Re-routing permitted	Re-routing not to be permitted
No time limit for purchase of ticket	Confirmed ticket to be purchased at least seven days prior to departure

Student Concession:

Conditions before modifications	Conditions after modifications
For travel on any domestic sectors	For travel between Home town and place of study only

The aforesaid modifications in the Senior Citizens Concessions and Student Concessions were implemented, w.e.f. 7th July, 2003.

On receipt of a large number of representations, the aforesaid conditions were further reviewed and the following conditions governing Senior Citizens discount and Student Concessions were relaxed w.e.f. 1st October, 2003:

Conditions before 1st October, 2003 Senior Citizen	Conditions after 1st October, 2003
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Minimum seven days stay at destination in case of Round Trip journey and seven days stay at each intermediate point in case of Circle Trip journeys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Minimum seven days stay reduced to minimum two nights stay at destination in case of Round Trip journey and at each intermediate point in case of Circle Trip journey.
<p>Student Concession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Part travel upto Kolkata not permitted for Students travelling on Student Concession on flights operating between points in North East and Kolkata. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Students permitted to travel on flights operating between points in North East and Kolkata when the sectors form a part of journey permitted i.e. from place of study to Home Town.

The eligibility criteria for availing of the senior citizen discount is 65 years in case of male senior citizen and 63 years in case of female on the date of commencement of journey.

(c) **Air India** offers a special discount of 55% of the basic fare on its domestic routes to senior citizens, cancer patients, armed forces personnel and blind persons. Air India does not offer Apex and Super-Apex fares on the domestic sectors.

Indian Airlines/Alliance Air

The details of concessions extended by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are given in the Statement (See below).

However, the Smart APEX Fares (D-7 and D-21) presently offered by Indian Airlines are special fares which are much lower than the Normal sector fares. These fares are offered on specified domestic sectors for travel in Economy Class depending upon certain factors like extent of competition, market size, capacity offered, the potential to generate new traffic by diversion of existing traffic from other modes of transport etc. The scheme is offered for specified period of time on specified sectors. Fares have not been introduced, in view of these factors, on Delhi-Srinagar and Delhi-Bhubaneswar sectors.

Statement

Special Fares—Domestic (On Permanent Basis)

- * All Discount unless and until specified otherwise, shall be applicable on Indian Airlines Domestic Network on Economy Class INR Sector Fares only for travel by Economy Class.
- * All Discounts are applicable on the fare Component of INR Fares.
- * In case of INR Fares, IATT and PSF are charged full unless and until specified otherwise.
- * Special Fares-Domestic-applicable to Indians and Foreigners residing in India unless specified otherwise.
- * No Special Fares/Discounts are available on Flights operated by a Dornier aircraft.

CONCESSIONS

S. No.	Concession	Conditions
1.	Armed Forces Discount (MIL-50) (Introduced since late sixties) Booking Class "M"	50% discount, offered to members of Indian Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) who are in active service and their family members travelling at their own expense.
2.	Personnel of General Reserve Engineering Force (GML-50) (Introduced prior to 1978) Booking class "M"	50% discount, offered to members of General Reserve Engineering Forces who are in active service and their family members travelling at their own expense.

S. No.	Concession	Conditions
3.	War Disabled Persons (YML-75) (Introduced prior to 1978) Booking Class "M"	w.e.f 1st February, 2001, concession increased to 75% from 50% for War Disabled Persons and 50% discount to their family members offered.
4.	Discount to War Widows (WML-75) (Introduced prior to 1995) Booking Class "M"	W.e.f. 1st February, 2001, concession increased to 75% from 50% for War Widows.
5.	Ex-Armed Force Personnel who are recipient of Bravery Award (Level I & II i.e. Paramvir Chakra/Ashoka Chakra and Mahavir Chakra/Kirti Chakra) (XML-75) (Introduced prior to 1978) Booking Class "M"	W.e.f. 1st February, 2001, concession increased to 75% from 50% for Ex Armed Forces Personnel who are recipients of Bravery Award (level I and II)
6.	Para Military Forces Discount BSF/ITBP/CISF/CRPF/RPG/NSG/SSB/Coast Guards/Assam Rifles/IB*Introduced w.e.f. 1st February, 2001 *(Introduced w.e.f. 24th April, 2001). (PML-50) Booking Class "M"	50% Discount to Para Military forces who are in active service and their family members travelling at their own expense.
7.	Police Personnel—Recipients of Presidents Police Medal for Gallantry and Police Medal for Gallantry. Introduced w.e.f. 1st February, 2001 (RPM-75) Booking Class "M"	75% discount introduced w.e.f. 1st February, 2001.
8.	Recipients of Gallantry Awards— Civilians (Introduced w.e.f. 17.10.96) (GA-75) Booking Class "M"	w.e.f. 1st Feb., 2001, 75% discount is offered to the Awardees of 'Ashoka' & 'Kirti Chakra'.
9.	Students Discount (SD-50) Booking Class "M"	W.e.f. 7th July, 2003 Student discount on domestic sectors modified. Travel permitted only from Place of Study to Home Town or v.v. 50% discount on Normal sector and Point to Point fares for travel in Economy class. With effect from 1st October, 2003 Student discount is also permitted for travel on flights operating from points in North East to Kolkata and v.v. when the sectors form a part of journey permitted i.e. from place of Study to Home Town.

S. No.	Concession	Conditions
10.	Senior Citizens Discount (Introduced w.e.f. 1.8.94) (SCD) Booking Class "M"	<p>50% Discount on fare, to those Citizens, who have completed 65 years of age in the case of Male passengers and (w.e.f. 29th August, 2000) 63 years of age in the case of female passengers on the date of commencement of journey.</p> <p>W.e.f. 7th July, 2003, Senior Citizen Discount modified. Details of modification as under :—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Indian Nationals residing in India are eligible for this discount. • Only Round Trip/Circle Trip journey permitted. One way journey not permitted. • Re-routing not permitted. • Confirmed ticket to be purchased at least 7 days prior to departure. • Minimum stay of 7 days at destination. In case of Circle Trip, minimum 7 days stay at each intermediate point. <p>With effect from 1st October, 2003 the conditions of minimum seven days stay at destination in case of round trip journey and each intermediate point in case of Circle Trip journey has been reduced to minimum two night stay in both type of journey.</p>
11.	Blind Persons Discount (BP-50) (Introduced prior to 1978) Booking Class "M"	50% discount on Normal sector fare and Point to Point Fares. (IATT exempted, Full PSF).
12.	Cancer Patient Discount (CP-50) (Introduced prior to 1978) Booking Class "M"	50% Discount on Normal sector fare and Point to Point fare (For travel between Place of Residence and Place of treatment only). (IATT exempted, Full PSF).
13.	Locomotor Disability Discount (Introduced on the direction of Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 30.01.99) (LD-50) Booking Class "M"	50% discount on Normal sector fare and Point to Point Fare to Disabled Persons, suffering from 80% and above Locomotor Disability. (IATT and PSF payable in full).

S. No.	Concession	Conditions
14.	<p>Stretcher Fare. Special Fare is offered to the Invalid passengers on Stretcher (w.e.f. 26th November, 1999) SF-4</p> <p>Fare for the Carriage of Stretcher from/to Port Blair, Leh and Agatti (w.e.f. 29 August, 2000) SF: 1 Booking Class "M"</p>	<p>Four times the Normal Published Adult Fare Component (in INR/USD) for carriage of Stretcher on all types of aircraft except on Dornier aircraft. On Dornierair-Booking Class "Y" craft Fare for carriage of Stretcher is Three times the Normal Published Adult Fare Component (in INR/USD) IATT exempted and one PSF charged. Insurance Charge is applicable.</p> <p>ATR-42 320 aircraft unable to accept carriage or Stretcher Single Sector fare (in INR/USD) is applicable for the Carriage of Stretcher from/to Port Blair, Leh and Agatti. IATT full in case of INR Fare, PSF and Insurance Charge is applicable.</p>
15.	<p>Concession to Sports Persons Participating in National Sports Events (SP-25) (Introduced prior to 1995) Booking Class "M"</p>	<p>25% Discount on fare to Sports person hailing from the States in the North Eastern Region for travel between Calcutta and Guwahati on one hand and a Station within North-Eastern Region on the other hand.</p>
16.	<p>Concession to Arjuna Awardees (AA-50) (Introduced w.e.f. 1st April, 2002) Booking Class "M"</p>	<p>6 return tickets on 50% discount offered to each Arjuna Awardee in a financial year i.e. from 1st April to 31st March, each year.</p>

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Aviation Financial Package for Rajasthan

640. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the new aviation financial package for Rajasthan to develop infrastructure in the State, as announced by Government;

(b) how far it will help to boost tourism from abroad as well as within the country; and

(c) whether a similar proposal is also under consideration for other States; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There is no new aviation financial