

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1459  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020)**

**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FROM KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

1459. SHRI K.K. RAGESH

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

- (a) whether the Centre Government is considering to allow foreign airlines to operate from the Kannur international airport;
- (b) if so, progress of the steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) to (c): Grant of additional points of call to foreign carriers is based on the principles of reciprocity & balance of benefits. There is already an imbalance in this regard in favour of foreign airlines in a large number of Air Services Agreements. As per current practice, the points other than metros are not being granted to foreign countries so that the hubs may be created within India and not outside of India. However, Indian carriers are free to mount services from any point in India including Kannur International Airport to international destinations available under bilateral agreements. Since operationalization of Kannur international airport in December 2018, Indian carriers have started operating 56 flights per week to different international destinations.

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