

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 494
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12th December 2022)

KANNUR AIRPORT AS 'POINT OF CALL'

494. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL

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

- (a) whether Government is ready to declare the Kannur Airport as 'Point of Call' to enable foreign carriers to commence service from Kannur Airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the actions proposed to be taken by Government to increase more international service from Kannur Airport considering a huge demand; and
- (d) the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) and (b) Kannur International Airport was commissioned in December 2018. Within a period of one year, by Winter 2019 schedule, Indian carriers were operating 65 international services per week from Kannur.

The Air Service Agreements are bilateral in nature and reciprocity is generally maintained in such agreements. In the past, due to grant of multiple points of call to foreign countries, an imbalance has been created wherein foreign carriers have access to multiple points in India while Indian carriers have access to only one or two points. Hence, the Government of India is not granting any non-metro airport as a new point of call to any foreign carrier for the purpose of operating passenger services.

(c) and (d) Indian designated carriers are free to mount scheduled operations to/from any international airport including Kannur International Airport to foreign destinations under the ambit of bilateral air services agreements concluded by India with foreign countries. However, start of international flight from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of economic

viability of the route and other associated factors.
