

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 360
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 24th July 2023)**

DIRECT FLIGHTS TO JAPAN FROM CHENNAI

360. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is in receipt of the request from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to introduce direct flight to Japan from Chennai;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government is considering introducing direct flights to Japan from Chennai; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. A letter from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was received regarding commencement of direct international flight between Chennai and Tokyo and the same has been replied to.

(c) and (d) Chennai is available as a point of call for designated carriers of Japan. Similarly, Indian designated carriers are free to mount operations to/from any point in India including Chennai to any foreign destinations under the ambit of bilateral air service agreements concluded by India with foreign countries as per mutually agreed capacity limits.

However, commencement of international flights 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. As such, the Government has provided an enabling environment for growth of civil aviation sector but does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines.
