

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2747  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025)**

**RESUMPTION OF INTERNATIONAL AIR CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN  
INDIA'S SECONDARY CITIES**

2747. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE

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

- (a) total number of international routes commenced and suspended under the AirIndia network since July, 2023, along with the reasons for their suspension, including the case of the Goa-London (Gatwick) direct-flight, which commenced in July, 2023 and was suspended in June, 2025;
- (b) whether any proposals or representations have been received regarding the resumption of the Goa-London (Gatwick) direct-flight, and the response thereto;
- (c) whether Government is considering resumption of this flight, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government will consider policy incentives to ensure sustained international connectivity from airports such as Goa, which cater to high outbound tourism and diaspora demand?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- (a) to (c) As informed by Air India, 24 international routes have been commenced by them since July, 2023, out of which 04 routes have been suspended due to commercial reasons. Air India's Goa-London (Gatwick) service, which was temporarily suspended, is scheduled to resume in Winter Schedule 2025.
- (d) The international operations of airlines are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreements (ASAs) between India and the respective countries. Goa has been designated as a point of call for some countries, including UK, and is also among the 18 tourist destinations open to designated carriers from ASEAN and SAARC countries (except Pakistan and Afghanistan) for unlimited operations. The Government provides an enabling environment for growth of the civil aviation

sector but does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines. However, the start of direct international flights from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of scheduled airlines on the basis of passenger demand, availability of slots, economic viability of the route and other associated factors.

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