

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 809
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th December 2025)**

POINT OF CALL STATUS TO KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

809. SHRI JOSE K. MANI

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

- (a) the criteria for declaring an airport as "Point of Call";
- (b) whether Government has received any request from the State Government to declare it as "Point of Call" to enable foreign carriers to operate to and from Kannur;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has any plan to designate Kannur International airport as a "Point of Call" and for increased frequency of operations by Indian carriers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Grant of point of call (PoC) to the designated carriers of foreign countries is a continuous process and is done through bilateral agreements on air services signed between India and foreign countries from time to time. The grant of PoC to the designated carriers of foreign countries depends on factors which include benefits to the Indian aviation sector, presence of Indian diaspora in that country, future plans of Indian carriers, elements of reciprocity, balance of benefits and other relevant factors between two countries.

(b) & (c): Yes. The Government has received requests from the State Government of Kerala for granting 'point of call' status to Kannur International Airport.

(d) & (e): At present, the Government of India promotes more international operations by Indian carriers from non-metro points either directly or through their own domestic operations. Accordingly, non-metro points, including Kannur, are

not being granted as new points of call in the Air Services Agreements to any foreign country.

Indian Airlines are free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate within the ambit of bilateral agreements. The airlines provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. The start of international flights from any point in India, including Kannur, is purely a commercial decision of the airlines based on the availability of slots, market requirement, economic viability of the route and other associated factors.
