

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 10
(To be answered on the 2nd February 2023)**

POINTS OF CALL STATUS TO AIRPORTS

10. DR. SHASHI THAROOR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to review its policy that limits points of call status for foreign airlines from Europe and the U.S. to only six metro airports and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons behind overseas airlines not being granted any non-metro airport as a new point of call;

(c) whether the Government has received any formal request from the Government of Kerala requesting grant of permission to foreign carriers to operate out of the Kannur airport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) & (b) Operations of foreign airlines are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective country (which has designated the airline). Any foreign airline can operate to/from a point (airport) in India if it is designated as a point of call in the ASA. At present, the Government of India follows a policy of promoting more international operations by Indian carriers from non-metro points either directly or through their own domestic operations. Accordingly, the policy is to not grant any non-metro airport as a new point of call in the ASAs to any foreign carrier.

(c) & (d) The Government has received a reference dated 11 August, 2021 from the Government of Kerala requesting grant of permission to foreign carriers to operate out of Kannur International Airport, to which a reply conveying the stand of the Government (as mentioned above) has been given on 26 August, 2021.
