

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Lok Sabha
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1283
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July 2023)
UNDERUTILIZATION OF AMRITSAR AIRPORT

1283. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that the capacity of Amritsar Airport is being underutilized for international operations vis-a-vis Delhi International Airport;**
- (b) if so, the details of number of international flights utilising Amritsar Airport and the reasons for its underutilization, therefor; and**
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to introduce more direct flights from Amritsar and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) and (b) Operations from different airports depends upon various factors which include the analysis by airlines of viability of routes, passenger demand, passenger handling capacity, catchment area of the airport etc. As such, airports cannot be simply compared on the basis of international operations only. Presently, the approved international connectivity by Indian and foreign carriers from Amritsar airport is 58 departures per week to various international destinations.;

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(c) International flight operations are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective countries. In accordance with ASA, Indian designated carriers are

free to mount operations to/from any international airport including Amritsar to foreign destinations as per mutually agreed capacity limits.

However, start of international flight from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of various factors such as slot availability, market requirement, economic viability of operations etc.
