

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 990
(To be answered on the 8th February 2024)**

FLIGHTS FROM AMRITSAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

990. SHRI JASBIR SINGH GILL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details and number of airlines that have asked for permission or shown interest to commence operations to start international flights from Amritsar International Airport; and
(b) the details of flights of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan airlines being given permission to start/resume their flights from the said Airport?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) & (b): The international operations of airlines are governed by the bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective country. 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, while any designated foreign airline can operate to/from a point in India if it is designated as a point of call in the ASA. 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.

Currently, as per the Winter Schedule 2023-24, Indian Carriers i.e., IndiGo and Spicejet are operating international flights from Amritsar to Sharjah and Dubai respectively. On the other hand, foreign carriers i.e., Air Asia X Berhad, Malaysia Airlines, Malindo Air, Neos S.p.A, Qatar Airways, Scoot Pte Ltd are operating 29 services per week from Amritsar International Airport.

Amritsar is available as a point of call for designated carriers of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. However, the Government does not interfere in the operational plans of the airlines and 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.
