

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 715
(To be answered on the 21st November 2019)

KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AS 'POINT OF CALL'

715. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal to declare Kannur International Airport as a 'Point of Call' for foreign carriers, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has granted 'Point of Call' status for Kannur Airport, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor along with rationale in terms of reciprocity and balance of benefits.

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government has received proposals to declare Kannur as a point of call for foreign carriers from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, State Government of Kerala and industry associations.

(b) & (c) No, Sir. Grant of point of call for the designated carriers of foreign countries is considered on the principles of reciprocity in terms of commercial opportunity for the airlines of each side. However, the Indian carriers are free to mount services from any point in India including Kannur International Airport to international destinations available under bilateral agreements.

At present, three international airports in Kerala viz. Trivandrum, Kozhikode and Kochi are available as points of call under a large number of bilateral Air Services Agreements including those with most SAARC, ASEAN and Gulf countries. In return, the points of call available to the Indian carriers in other countries are very limited and an imbalance already exists in favour of foreign carriers. Therefore interior points in the country are not being offered as points of call to foreign carriers.
