

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1870
(To be answered on the 9th December 2021)**

AIR SERVICES FROM KANNUR AIRPORT

1870. ADV. A.M. ARIFF

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware that numbers of domestic flight passengers in the country are increasing substantially and if so, the details thereof, airport and year-wise from FY 2015-16 to 2020-21;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the facilities at the Kannur International Airport in Kerala remain under-utilized as private airlines are not permitted to operate their services therefrom and if so, the reasons for not giving the requisite permission;
- (c) the list of private air-crafts which have expressed their willingness to operate their services from Kannur International Airport; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to permit wide body aircrafts of private sector aircrafts to operate services from KIAL and if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

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

(a) : Details of the passengers carried as reported by the Scheduled Indian Air Carriers to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) are attached as Annexure.

(b): Kannur International Airport was commissioned in December 2018. Within a period of one year, by Winter 2019 schedule, Indian carriers were operating 65 international services per week from Kannur, before scheduled international commercial passenger services were suspended on account of COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, due to significant imbalance in the number of points of call in favour of foreign carriers, the Government of India is not granting any non-metro airport in the country as a new point of call to any foreign carrier for the purpose of operating passenger services.

(c) & (d): Kannur International Airport is licensed under aerodrome reference code '4E' i.e. DGCA has approved wide body operations from Kannur airport. Indian designated carriers are free to mount scheduled

operations with wide body aircraft to/from any international airport including Kannur International Airport to foreign destinations under the ambit of bilateral Air Service Agreements concluded by India with foreign countries. Moreover, as per approved Winter Schedule - 2021, Air India , Go First and Indigo have filed schedule to operate scheduled flights on domestic sectors to/from Kannur airport.

Annexure

Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 1870 for 09.12.2021 regarding "Air Services from Kannur Airport"

Details of passenger carried reported by Scheduled Indian Carriers for its Scheduled domestic services

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Number of passengers
1.	2015-16	8,51,97,675
2.	2016-17	10,37,48,814
3.	2017-18	12,33,15,916
4.	2018-19	14,03,33,572
5.	2019-20 (*)	14,12,02,237
6.	2020-21 (*)	5,33,30,502

(*): Provisional