

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3081
(To be answered on the 4th August 2016)**

FLIGHTS FROM COCHIN AIRPORT

3081. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to initiate direct flights to US/Europe from Cochin international airport considering the increased volume of passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has any detailed statistics of passengers travelling daily from Cochin international airport and other influential zone to Europe and US; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) to (c): Operation of any airline is guided by its commercial viability and Government does not interfere in the commercial judgement of the airlines. However, Indian carriers are free to mount services from any point in India including Cochin International airport to international destinations as per the respective bilateral air services arrangements.

(d) & (e): No such statistics are maintained by the Government. However, as per data of IATA Direct Data Solution for the period from June 2015 to May 2016, an average of 401 and 274 passengers are travelling per day from Cochin International Airport to Europe and United States respectively.