

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 27
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25th November 2024)

POINT-OF-CALL STATUS TO AIRPORTS

27. DR. JOHN BRITTAS

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government has adopted a policy that new Point-of-Call status will not be granted to non-metro airports;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Point-of-Call status was granted to new non-metro airports, including Manohar Airport in Goa, Bagdogra Airport in West Bengal, and Veer Savarkar in Port Blair;
- (d) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (e) whether State of Goa is considered as a single 'City' for allowing transfer of foreign services to Manohar International Airport;
- (f) if so, will that be applied to Kannur Airport by treating Kerala as a single 'City'; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- (a) to (g): The international operations of airlines are governed by the bilateral Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and the respective country. Any foreign airline can operate to/from a point in India if it is designated as a point of call (PoC) in the ASA. At present, the Government of India promotes more international operations by Indian carriers from non-metro points either directly or through their own domestic operations. Accordingly, new non-metro points are not granted as PoC in the ASA to any foreign carrier.

Goa, Bagdogra and Port Blair have not been granted as new PoCs to any country in the recent past. The ASAs signed with a few countries grant Goa as a point of call. As such, designated carriers of both India and respective foreign country are free to mount international operations to/from any international airport in Goa, including Manohar International Airport (MOPA). Kerala is not granted as a PoC in any ASA.

Calicut, Cochin and Thiruvananthapuram in the State of Kerala are available as PoCs in certain ASAs.
