



# TRIVANDRUM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Affiliated to  
Member

**FICCI** - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi  
**ASSOCHAM** - Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India, New Delhi.

Ref:122/TCCI/CM-Kerala/2023

18/11/2023

Sri Pinarayi Vijayan,  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala.

Respected Chief Minister,

Sub: Request to facilitate Air India flights connecting Thiruvananthapuram to Washington DC-reg

We may be permitted to bring to your kind attention a matter of significant public importance that will put Kerala on the Global Aviation Map connecting directly to the United States of America.

As you are well aware, we have more than 11 Lakhs Malayalees living in the United States (US), out of which 4 Lakhs are from our three Southern Districts. Another one lakh NRIs from Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli Districts in Tamil Nadu also live in the US.

Apart from the sizable population mentioned above, at least twice the number travel annually to and from the US to visit their kith and kin, on business, leisure and medical treatment, among various other purposes.

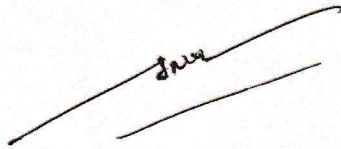
For obvious reasons, a direct flight connecting Thiruvananthapuram International Airport to the US would greatly help lakhs of our people and their families both in the US and Kerala. Challenges of transit travel are evident in prolonged layovers and additional security checks, consuming valuable time of passengers. Adding to these are logistical hurdles, including the need to navigate multiple terminals for Emigration and Custom clearances, potential flight delays and the hassle of transfer of baggage, contributing to a cumbersome travel experience.

A Capital-to-Capital direct flight from Thiruvananthapuram to Washington DC will not only enhance the convenience of the travellers but also earn them significant savings in travel costs. Such a direct flight will also give big boost to Tourism in the State with its significant contribution to the State's economy.

Against this backdrop, we request you to kindly write to the Chairman of Air India to consider introducing regular direct flights connecting Thiruvananthapuram to Washington DC under the Capital to Capital maiden initiative.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,  
For TCCI

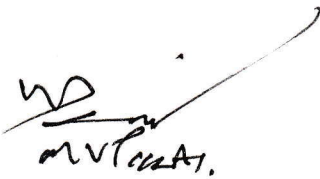


S N Raghuchandran Nair  
President

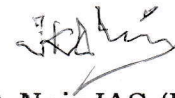


Abraham Thomas (Joji)  
Secretary

Endorsed and supported by



Dr MV Pillai  
USA



TKA Nair IAS (Retd)  
Managing Trustee,  
Citizens India  
Foundation, TVM