

**Need to review the decision to exclude Madurai, Tamil Nadu from the list of ?  
Points of Call? under the ASEAN Open Sky Policy-laid**

**SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR):** I wish to draw the attention of the Government to reconsider its decision to exclude Madurai, one of India's oldest and most culturally significant cities, from the list of points of call under the ASEAN Open Sky Policy. Given its rich heritage and importance, I humbly request the Hon'ble Minister to consider making an exception for Madurai. As a city steeped in history and spirituality, Madurai's Meenakshi Amman Temple attracts millions of pilgrims and tourists every year. Its cultural significance extends beyond India's borders, sharing deep civilizational ties with ASEAN countries like Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia. However, the lack of direct international connectivity hampers tourism and regional development. Including Madurai under the ASEAN policy would not only boost tourism but also enhance economic viability and promote cultural diplomacy. I urge the Government to treat Madurai as a special case and include it as a designated point of call. This policy change would have a significant national impact, promoting tourism, trade, and cultural exchange.