

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 125
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December 2022)

KANNUR AND CALICUT AIRPORTS DEVELOPMENT

*125. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any step for the infrastructure development of Kannur and Calicut airports;
- (b) whether Government has included Kannur and Calicut airports under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS); and
- (c) if so, the details of the proposed plan for air connectivity with other cities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 125 REGARDING "KANNUR AND CALICUT AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT" TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022.

(a) to (c): Kannur Airport is a Greenfield International Airport developed by the State Government of Kerala i.e. Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The airport is managed under Public Private Partnership (PPP) by Kannur International Airport Ltd. The airport was operationalised in December 2018. It has single runway of length 3050 meters, and is capable of handling Aircraft up to Aerodrome Code 'E'. The airport has one terminal having area of 97000 Sq Meter with annual handling capacity of 9 MPPA

Calicut (Kozhikode) Airport is an International airport with an area of 372.54 acres. It has a single runway 10/28 having dimensions of 2700m x 45m suitable for B-737-300 type of aircraft. The existing apron has 12 nos. of parking stands. The domestic terminal having area of 12000 sqm can handle 750 peak hour passengers while the International terminal having area of 39920 sqm can handle 1500 peak hour passengers. The existing Terminal Building has an annual capacity of 5.0 MPPA.

Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country and making air travel affordable to the masses. UDAN is a market driven scheme. Interested airlines based on their assessment of demand on particular routes, submit their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN.

Calicut airport is currently a served airport. However, interested airlines may formulate routes connecting Calicut airport to any unserved and underserved airport and submit bids under RCS-UDAN. Also, in earlier bidding rounds of UDAN, Calicut - Delhi - Calicut route was awarded as Tourism route (which can connect serving airports) to Selected Airline Operator (SAO) and same also has been operationalized.

Kannur Airport in Kerala was considered during the 2nd round of bidding under UDAN. Routes from Kannur Airport connecting to Cochin, Bangalore, Chennai, Goa, Hubli & Thiruvananthapuram were awarded to SAO and have been operationalized.

After repeal of the Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian domestic aviation market has been deregulated. Consequently, airlines are free to induct capacity with any aircraft type for selecting whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate with compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDGs) issued by Government across the country. Thus, it is up to the airlines to provide air services to/from any airport in country depending on their operational and commercial viabilities.
