

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3919
(To be answered on the 10th August 2017)**

OPERATION OF HAJ FLIGHTS FROM CALICUT AIRPORT

3919. SHRI P.K. KUNHALIKUTTY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Haj flights were earlier operating from Calicut airport and that the same were suspended for some years in the recent past due to renovation of the said airport, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the renovation of the said airport has been completed and Haj flights from that airport have still not been started; and**
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which Haj flights would be operated from the airport?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Haj operations were shifted from Calicut airport to Cochin due to the runway recarpeting work at Calicut airport in 2015.

(b) and (c): Runway recarpeting work at Calicut Airport was completed on 28.02.2017. Since the process of Haj operations 2017 had already been initiated, Haj Committee of India had decided to maintain status quo in respect of number of embarkation points for Haj 2017 as for Haj 2016. The airport is licensed for operations of aircraft upto Code 'D'. Due to operational safety reasons in view of inadequate runway length and width of basic strip, Directorate General of Civil Aviation has not granted permission for operations of Code 'E' type of aircraft at this airport. No timeline has been fixed for commencement of Haj operation from Calicut airport.
