

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2987  
(To be answered on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018)**

**Flight Services from Kannur Airport**

**2987. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्री**

**be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Kannur International airport is nearing completion along with the time frame fixed for operationalising the airport, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of national and international airline operators interested in services from Kannur airport;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to allot more international flights from Kannur and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the State Government of Kerala has sought environmental clearance for the proposed airport in Sabarimala, Kerala, if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has noted the opposition against the project due to its environmental impact and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री**

**(Shri Jayant Sinha)**

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(a): Yes Madam. The airport developer i.e. M/s. Kannur International Airport Limited (KIAL) has intimated that there are plans to commence commercial operations at Kannur International Airport by June 2018.

(b) & (c): With repeal of Air Corporation Act in March 1994, the Indian aviation was deregulated. Airlines are free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate. In this regard, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better connectivity of air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. International operations are governed by the availability of bilateral traffic rights and commercial judgement of the airlines. Government does not interfere in the operational plans of airline operators.

(d) & (e): Under Greenfield Airport Policy of the Government, Ministry has not received any proposal for development of Greenfield Airport for Sabarimala.