GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3854  
(To be answered on the 18th March 2021)

SAFETY AT CALICUT AIRPORT

3854. ADV. A.M. ARIFF

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to develop the facilities to  
ensure safety at the Calicut International Airport in Karipur in the aftermath  
of the recent plane crash;  
(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) whether the Government proposes to restore the Haj embarkation point at  
Calicut International Airport for the upcoming Haj Pilgrimage to reduce the  
difficulties for the pilgrims from the northern districts and if so, the details  
thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION  
दिग्विजय सिंह पुरी  
(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) & (b) Calicut Airport is owned and operated by Airports Authority of  
India (AAI) and licensed by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for  
public use category. Accordingly, adequate safety measures are already in  
place for ensuring safe operation of aircraft at Calicut International Airport  
as per International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards and  
DGCA Civil Aviation Requirements. However, a Committee constituted to  
identify airports for deployment of additional safety measures has made a few  
recommendations in respect of Calicut International Airport such as  
exploring the feasibility of providing 280m runway strip instead of 150m at  
present, construction of Runway End Safety Area at both ends of runway to  
reduce payload restrictions of aircraft, exploring the feasibility of increasing  
length of runway and filling/levelling and construction of embankments.  
(c) In view of COVID-19 pandemic situation, the number of Embarkation  
Points for Haj 2021 has been reduced from existing 21 to 10. Calicut  
International Airport has not been designated as an Embarkation Point for  
Haj 2021. Moreover, embarkation point are decided by the Ministry of  
Minority Affairs on the recommendation of Haj Committee of India.