

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 3854  
(To be answered on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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**

**नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

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- (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.

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