

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

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**Title : Regarding development of Kozhikode Airport.**

**SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit here the major issues concerning the Kozhikode International Airport. This profit-making airport is facing various issues frequently. The major issues are as follows.

First, unnecessary delay in procedures in RESA lengthening would largely discourage NRIs, who are the backbone of our economy, and others from availing the services of this airport. I urge upon the Government to expedite the RESA lengthening, without curtailing the runway, in coordination with the State Government as early as possible.

Secondly, recarpeting of the 2860 metre runway is expected to take a time of 11 months at Calicut, while Ahmedabad airport has taken only two and a half months for the same, and Cochin airport has taken less than four months' time. Kindly take necessary steps to bring down the time limit of recarpeting, and bring it down to less than four months.

Thirdly, airlines are charging exorbitant rates in comparison with the neighbouring airports for cargo export from Calicut. It has caused reduction of exports considerably affecting our economy and agriculture.

I urge upon the Government to kindly intervene and take steps to reduce the sky-rocketing airline fares which are rising every day. I request the Government to set up a regulatory mechanism for the same.

I urge upon the Civil Aviation Ministry to support us in acquiring the necessary land for the expansion and extension of runway and to make it one of the largest international airports of our country. I would request the Government to address the above-mentioned concerns with immediate effect. Thank you.