

Keshav Ranade, a private individual who has donated over Rs. ten lakhs from his own savings as a philanthropic gesture to promote Strategic Studies and Research on issues of defence preparedness of Independent India. The award is made under the aegis of the Centre for Strategic Studies. A three-member Committee headed by Admiral JG Nadkarni (Retd.), former CNS, Lt. Gen BT Pandit (Retd.) and Air Marshal S. Kulkarni (Retd.) had been constituted to select the awardee, who could be either an individual or a group of individuals or an institution for making a valuable contribution in the field of strategic studies. The recipient of the first Veer Sarvakar Award was Shri K. Subrahmanyam and the former Chief of the Army Staff General S. Roychowdhury had presided over the Award Ceremony in 1997. The second recipient was Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. For the second award ceremony, General Malik was requested to preside over the function which he did on 28.5.98. Neither the Trust instituting the Award, the organising Centre, nor the recipients have any political affiliations.

- (iii) In so far as the allegation by ex-CNS that General Malik was given extension in service, the truth is that the Government had taken a policy decision, in May 1998, on the specific recommendation of the three Services, to increase by two years, the retirement ages of all personnel of the Defence Services. This decision was taken simultaneous with the decision to enhance the retirement age by two years on the civil side. In the case of three Chiefs of the Defence Services, the Government revised the ages of retirement from 60 years of age or 3 years tenure, which ever is earlier to 62 years of age or 3 years tenure, whichever is earlier. No special extension in service was given to General Malik.

9-30  
Rent Charged by Airport Authority of India

3612. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India is charging a significantly lesser rent from Indian Airlines for use of the domestic airports in comparison to private airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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Trivandrum and Calicut Airports

3613. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the Trivandrum and Calicut airports in terms of revenue earning and passenger handling;

(b) whether there is any proposal to augment the Calicut airport including providing Night Landing System; and

(c) if so, the time frame required for it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) Details relating to Thiruvananthapuram and Calicut airports in 1997-98 is as under :-

	Thiruvananthapuram	Calicut
Revenue	25.29 crores	07.28 crores
Expenditure	26.37 crores	05.75 crores
Profit/Loss	01.09 crores (loss)	01.53 crores (profit)
Passengers handled	1.45 lakhs	05.00 lakhs

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has following proposals for the augmentation of infrastructura facilities at Calicut Airport :-

(i) Extension of runway from 6000 feet to 7500 feet has been completed and commissioned and further extension work to 9000 feet is in progress and is likely to be completed by January, 2000.

(ii) Night landing facilities are already available on the existing runway but due to surrounding environment, DGCA has not permitted night operations at Calicut. However, the same will be reviewed by DGCA after extension of runway to 9000 feet.

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Construction of Road Over Bridges In Karnataka

3614. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has