

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5327

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF AIRPORTS IN KERALA

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to temporarily close down certain airports in Kerala for maintenance/repair works;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the timeframe fixed for completion of the said works;
- (c) whether temporary closure of airports in Kerala is likely to affect the Haj Pilgrims; and .
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the alternative arrangements made by the Government to overcome this problem?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a)& (b): No, Madam. However, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has proposed Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) for partial closure of runway at Calicut Airport from 1200 hours to 2000 hours (i.e. period of low operations) w.e.f. 1.9.2015 for a period of 18 months, in order to re-carpet and strengthen the runway at the Airport for safety reasons. Airlines can accordingly reschedule their flights and operate beyond these working hours .

(c) & (d): Do not arise.