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Title: Need to expedite the repair/re-carpeting of runway of Calicut International Airport and restore the Calicut-Delhi flight service of Air India.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA) : The Calicut International Airport opened at the initiative of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is one of the most profitable airports. Thousands of passengers bound for foreign countries, especially to Gulf destinations, are depending upon this only airport located in the Malabar region of Kerala. Right from the beginning, the apathy and utter negligence of the Civil Aviation Department towards this airport has put it in a sad plight. There is only one runway at this tabletop airport and even well experienced pilots complain of risks involved in landing here. The situation has come to such a pass that the runway is closed during day time for repair/re-carpeting. All private airlines, domestic and foreign, make alternative arrangements for continuing their operations unabated. Air India alone has miserably failed and the prestigious Calicut-Delhi flight is the casualty. I urge upon the Civil Aviation Ministry to restore the Delhi flight and also ensure early completion of the work on the runway.