

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding sanctioning of more International flights to Gulf countries and other International destinations from the Kannaur Airport.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (VADAKARA): Sir, Kannur International Airport is an airport serving the north region of Kerala, Kodagu and Mysore districts of Karnataka, and Mahe district of Puducherry in India. It is owned and operated by the Kannur International Airport Limited, a public-private consortium.

The Government of India has not yet accorded sanction for international operations from the airport except in the Gulf sector. It poses a threat to the very existence of the airport. The airport has a good infrastructure including a state-of-the-art runway to host wide body aircrafts.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Kuwait Airways and the Emirates had landed in the Kannur Airport. About 200-acres of land has already been acquired for the airport. The airport has the potential to become the fourth largest airport in India.

Hence, I would request the Government of India to sanction more international flights to gulf countries and other international destinations from the Kannur airport, and grant Kannur Airport the status of a 'point of call' airport for foreign Airlines. Allowing Haj Embarkation Point from Kannur Airport is another important request as a large number of pilgrims from Malabar area take up their Holy visit. Thank you.