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7 firms shortlisted for construction of Kannur airport

BY ASHRAF PADANNA March 25, 2013

TRIVANDRUM: Seven companies have been shortlisted for awarding engineering, procurement and construction contract of Kerala's fourth international airport coming up in the northern district of Kannur.

The companies shortlisted by the board of director of the Kannur International Airport Limited, which met here last week, are GMR Infrastructure, Sanjoy Gammons, Larson and Toubro, TAV-Essar, EKO-Unity, OJSC Sibmost-Gayatri and ITD Cementation India.

“The meeting has also finalised a roadmap for beginning construction of the runway within three months,” said K Babu, the minister for airports and seaports who is also one of the directors of the airport company.

The request for proposals will be issued on Saturday and the last date for receiving queries is set for April 15. The pre-bid meeting will be held the next day and the authority response to the queries would be available latest by April 22.

The bid date will be due on May 15 and the technical proposals will be opened the same day. The financial bids will be opened on May 20 and the contract letter will be issued within 10 days while the contract agreement will be signed within 20 days.

The minister said an extent of 1278 acres has already been acquired, out of 2000 acres originally planned, and the process of acquiring the remaining patches of land was progressing.

Kerala State Road Fund Board has started survey for a new greenfield road connecting the airport to Kannur city as the main access designed to ensure fast and free movement of traffic without traffic lights and junctions, with provision for entry and exit ramps for joining and exiting from connecting roads. All other major roads will be widened wherever possible and will be connected to this road.