

# Wish to stay ahead of the growth curve: Civil Aviation Minister at ASSOCHAM Meet

“Civil Aviation policy is just the beginning... India's Civil Aviation has gone up to number 4 from number 10, three years back, in global ranking and we aspire to become Number 1,” said Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister for Civil Aviation at an ASSOCHAM Conference on Civil Aviation.



Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation releasing ASSOCHAM Study Paper on Civil Aviation along with (L to R) Ajay Sharma, Sr. Director, ASSOCHAM; Rohit Mathur, CEO, Heritage Aviation; Dr. B. P. Sharma, CMD, Pawan Hans Ltd.; Rajiv Nayan Choubey, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India; Kamal Hingorani; Rajan Mehra, CEO, Club One Air and Anoop Dharmaseelan, Marketing Manager, Bombardier Commercial Aircraft



Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Civil Aviation with the Award Winners at the Conference

The Aviation Ministry is simultaneously working on enhancing capacity at major airport hubs of Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai. It is also working on developing new green-field and brown-field airports and smaller airports in tier III and IV cities.

“The Indian Air Force has allowed Hindon Airbase to be used for regional connectivity in winter. It has gone out of its way to cooperate with us and to make it available,” R. N. Choubey, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation said at the ASSOCHAM Conference in New Delhi.

“The first round of UDAN has been a game-changer,” he further said. 31 new airports have been added to the aviation network under this scheme in last few years. In contrast, just 75 airports were built in 70 years after independence.

The Ministry also has plans to open up all helipads, smaller air-strips in the hilly areas of states like Jammu and

measures which has enabled them to open up more remote locations for air connectivity under second round of UDAN. The Government also expects tremendous support from helicopter operators, NSOPs (Non Scheduled Air Operators) and others in this direction.

The Civil Aviation Ministry is also engaged in dialogue with Delhi

## Working on 4-pronged strategy to boost airports' capacity, Jayant Sinha

“We are significantly adding green-field capacity, we are examining brown-field PPP models for mid-sized airports and we are also looking at very cost effective ways of commissioning and operating smaller tier III and IV heliports,” said Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Civil Aviation.

“The Civil Aviation Ministry is working on a four-pronged strategy to enhance capacity of airports across India,” he further said. “We have been spending a lot of time thinking and planning about what we should do about airport capacity, we are working on four different aspects.”

He also said that second edition of UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme will help India's Civil Aviation Sector sustain the current 15-20 per cent growth along with various supportive policy measures.



O. P. Singh, IPS, Director General, Central Industry Security Force, (CISF) receiving the Award from Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Government of India

Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and the North-east as they had done in the tier III and IV airports during UDAN I. The Minister also added that all this has been possible through a supportive set of policy

International Airport Ltd. for inclusion in UDAN II. Slots will be available at Hindon Airbase if not at Delhi Airport.



“The Civil Aviation Industry has ushered in a new era of expansion, driven by factors such as low-cost

carriers (LCCs), modern airports, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in domestic airlines, advanced information technology (IT) interventions and growing emphasis on regional connectivity. The Conference turned out to be an effective platform for various stakeholders of the Aviation Industry to deliberate on how to take this Industry forward.”

**Sandeep Jajodia**  
President, ASSOCHAM

Follow us on:  
woozer f+ G+ t+ i+ in myloanassochem.com

Log on to  
**www.assochem.tv**  
Over 7,00,000 viewership  
SUBSCRIBE FOR FREE!