

RESUME AND A BRIEF ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS



V. SOMASUNDARAM
Member [ANS]
Airports Authority of India.

Career / Professional Background

Mr. Somasundaram, on selection through UPSC in the year 1985, started his career as Aerodrome Officer, direct entry Class I officer, in Civil Aviation Department, and joined at Mumbai airport which is the busiest airport in India.

He was absorbed in the newly created National Airports Authority in 1989 and subsequently in Airports Authority of India in 1995.

He has held all ATC ratings in Non-radar and radar units viz.. Aerodrome Control, Approach Control, Approach Radar (TAR), Area (En-route) Control, (Procedure), En-route radar (RSR) and performed active ATC duties in all units. He had also performed ATC Watch supervisory functions for the entire ATC operations at various ATS units in Mumbai airport and also served as ATC Instructor, imparting On the Job training to new controllers in both Radar and non-radar units.

In 1995, he was selected for Project Management of India's first ATC modernization programme which was popularly named as MATS-BD (Modernisation of ATS at Bombay and Delhi). As a project management executive, actively involved and participated in system design, development of software application, HMI, Data Base Management System (DBMS) with the system supplier M/s Raytheon, USA [MATS/BD].

He was associated with Raytheon software development team at Raytheon facility at Marlboro, Boston, USA in system development, Database development for the new system, first in India Associated with system developers in developing Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) and Site Acceptance Test (SAT) procedures, conduct of Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) of the system, Installation and pre-commissioning, Site Acceptance Test (SAT) of the integrated system. Imparted Training to the controllers in the new system for successfully commissioning of the system at Mumbai. Worked as System Administrator and Data Base Manager of the Mumbai ATC Automation system He has also imparted training to other controllers in new ATS automation system (Raytheon system), first in India, prior to commissioning the new system

In the year 2002, moved to Corporate Headquarters at New Delhi and served as General Manager [ATM] and Executive Director [ATM], actively involved in development of new ATM system for India, policy guidelines and implementation.

Contributions to International Civil Aviation organization

Mr. Somasundaram has actively participated in International aviation conferences, workshops and meetings of ICAO, IATA and CANSO, representing India as a State and submitted presentations and papers on Indian Aviation growth and ATM plans and strategies. Attended 36th ICAO General Assembly session in 2007 and also 37th ICAO General Assembly session in September-October 2010, as part of Indian delegation led by Secretary, Civil Aviation.

He has also actively participated in ICAO meetings at Asia Pacific Regional office, Bangkok, representing India in various Task Force, sub-groups and APANPIRG (Asia_Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group) the highest ICAO body at ICAO Asia Pacific Regional office, and submitted technical papers and presentations on Indian aviation and CNS/ATM initiatives. Actively participated in various ICAO working groups and Task forces representing India, for the implementation of EMARSSH route structure and RVSM in Asia Pacific Region. Also Served as Member in the Asia Pacific Regional ADS-B implementation task force.

He has served as a member in the Asia Pacific, Bay of Bengal Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) task force and contributed for the implementation of Bay of Bengal co-operative ATFM system. Also actively participating in ICAO Hqrs meetings also as part of Indian delegation and currently in the ICAO/IATA Global PBN task force. Also serving as a member of Indian delegation in various co-ordination groups with FAA and India-US joint working group on ATM matters.

Collaboration with International Organisations

India-USA Aviation co-operation programme: He is currently serving as a member of India-USA Aviation Co-operation programme . Actively participating in the Joint Aviation Steering Committee meetings and working group meetings in identifying the areas for collaboration and co-operation. Organised first ever India-USA aviation summit in Delhi in 2007 and presented papers on Indian Aviation initiatives.

India-EU Aviation co-operation programme

He is also serving as a member of India-EU aviation programme and participating in various meetings on CNS/ATM initiatives and harmonization of Indian aviation programme with European SESAR initiatives.

CANSO (Civil Air Navigation Service Organisation)

He is Serving as “Focal Point” of Airports Authority of India for CANSO and co-ordinating various activities of CANSO working groups and standing committees.

Contributions to Domestic Aviation Development initiatives

Actively participated in the deliberations and provided technical support and professional inputs to the following committees appointed by the government to develop roadmap for CNS/ATM upgradation and roadmap for future ATM system in India

- Roy Paul Committee
- Ajay Prasad committee
- Standing Committee on upgradation of Aviation MET infrastructure and systems in India

Also participated in various Domestic Aviation forums such as Aviation India, Aerodrome India conferences and presented technical papers on CNS/ATM initiatives in India and global trends.

Membership in Professional bodies

Member of Aeronautical Society of India which is a professional body on Aeronautical Research and Development in India
