

Special Feature on

Aviation Sector

Century Celebration of Aviation Sector in India

AAI enhances prospects of “Destination India” Manifold

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Airports Authority of India (AAI), schedule ‘A’ – Mini Ratna company is on threshold of achieving the status of Navratna & is spread over the length and breadth of the country managing over 125 airports with a workforce of over 20000, exclusive of CISF which is within its fold as it bears all expenses in r/o CISF. Manages the whole of Indian Continent Airspace and its immediate surrounding as notified by ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation) for smooth, seamless & uneventful transition of air traffic. It may be of relevance to record that AAI has an outlay of Rs. 5,000/- Crores.

AAI embarked upon a laudable plan of modernising & upgrading its airports with a dual aim, **firstly**, to match / keep a pace ahead of the increase in density both of the aircrafts and the air travelling populace and **secondly**, to provide the country with world class standard airports. The plans of modernisation was as an outcome of the changing scenario that had set in the aviation sector with the emergence of private players making inroads in airport operations. As a fall out of the government’s change

in policies, two of our major airports i.e. Delhi and Mumbai were heaved off from the control of AAI and handed over to our JV partners. With this as the background AAI perforce had no other option but to develop the second line of airports. The architect behind & responsible for bringing about the very perceivable change in the ‘Skyline’ of Indian Airport infrastructure is none other than **Sh. V.P. Agrawal, Chairman, AAI**. He being a ‘Visionary’ & ‘Perfectionist’ is creative, full of passion, gainfully makes use of his expertise to ‘water’ his business ventures so that the branches soar upwards; providing a wealth of shelter, shade and sense of well being to the work force under him. He possess the unique virtue of positive attitude, courage to explore vibrant new ideas coupled with ability to see beyond today, tomorrow and he does not see just the tree but envisions the entire forest. Thus, ensuring harvesting the fruit of excellence and making him landscaper of the future. He can easily be categorised as an ‘Entrepreneur who nurture’s growth, change & hope’. He tills the entrepreneurial space, preparing the ground to plant

and sow the seeds of business. He nurtures and grows healthy work environment, ensuring that the roots are solid, strong and well nourished. He truly is a ‘Reservoir of Expertise’, with over 3 decades of outstanding achievements and immaculate leadership in guiding a galaxy of professionals from diverse disciplines to redefine India’s aerial landscape, by creating world class airports infrastructure, exemplify the vision and commitment that this iconic personality fosters for boosting country’s airport infrastructure and ensuring that we are 2nd to none. These credentials undoubtedly entitle him to be a ‘Nation Builder’. He being a strategist & leader par excellence, deserves a ‘Rightful & Place of Pride’ in the list of the ‘Leading Drivers of India’s Growth Machine’. The latest feather in the cap of AAI being ushering in of ‘Green’ approach in airport projects. As a policy, AAI has adopted requirement of having all its projects evaluated on ‘Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment’ with an aim to achieve 4 star rating. This will go a long way towards country’s preparedness to address issues relating to climate change.