

## **Airport Advisory Committee meeting held at Chennai International Airport**

Chennai, 18.03.2023: The Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Thiru T. R. Baalu, Member of Parliament (LS) at Chennai International Airport to review the developmental aspects and other points pertaining to passenger facilitation of Airport. The meeting discussed broadly on the terminal & airside development and the progress of works in hand.

The meeting commenced deliberating on issues concerning the Chennai Airport modernisation project, airside enhancement works, clearing of obstacles and acquisition of land pockets identified for development. The Modernisation phase II, which is underway will be able to cater to 35 MPPA, which is a seamless increase from the existing capacity of 17 MPPA. However, in consonance with the terminal capacity increase, airside works are progressing well to meet the demand and the land pockets which are already identified and needed to be acquired for further development. Commissioning of the Bravo taxiway, Rapid Exit Taxiway (RET)-3, R & N Taxiways have quickened aircraft movement between runway(s) and apron(s) and with commissioning of RET 01, the peak hour aircraft handling capacity is expected to go up from 36/hr to 45/hr.

Chairman, AAC advised to convene a meeting of defence authorities and state government for handing over of defence land to AAI for airside development and instructed the special DRO to handover the land identified for hanger and simple approach lighting of runway 12/30. The obstacles on the approach path of secondary runway is affecting its optimum usage. The meeting dwelled up on obstacles on approach path of runway 12/30 to be removed without affecting the building which are having low infringement, i.e., up to 0.5

metres and it may be re-surveyed. Chairman AAC advised the concerned district administration(s) to initiate immediate measures to clear obstacles on the approach path to enable wide bodied aircraft operations. Further the land to the tune of 60 acres to be acquired for providing connectivity road between New terminal / Cargo terminal to Chennai By-pass was also deliberated.

The presence of touts at the arrival was also discussed. Chairman AAC directed Police Authorities to have a strict vigil and ensure no such anti-social activity are allowed at the airport. He also insisted to place the name boards mentioning “Kamaraj Domestic Terminal” and “Anna International Terminal” after completion of the construction work.

Chairman AAC suggested for deployment of CISF personnel speaking local language to be positioned in the passenger interaction areas. The same is expected to ensure better facilitation of passengers. Other points including shortage of manpower in immigration, Hon’ble MP instructed FRRO to submit a letter mentioning the shortage and requirement, were also discussed.

Chairman AAC and Chennai AOC commended the remarkable efforts of AAI team for taking on board two new ground handles in Chennai airport which will quicken ground operations in airside and ensure faster baggage delivery. Dr. Sharad Kumar, Airport Director, Chennai International Airport briefed the core points. The meeting was attended by Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan, Hon’ble Minister for MSME, Thiru I. Karunanithi, MLA (Pallavaram); Thiru S.R.Raja ,MLA (Tambaram), Thiru M.A. Vaithiyalingam (Ex MLA); Thiru A.R. Rahul Nadh IAS, District Collector, Chengalpattu; Senior officials from Greater Chennai Corporation, local bodies and State Police; Airlines (AOC) and airport stakeholders including Customs, Immigration and CISF.

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