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PRESS RELEASE

MOU Signed for the second Airport in Chhattisgarh – Raigarh

Raipur – 24th July, 2013

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for development of Raigarh Airport at the estimated cost of Rs. 280 Crores was signed between State Govt of Chhattisgarh & Airports Authority of India in the presence of Dr. **Raman Singh**, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.

The function was chaired by Dr. Raman Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh, also present during the function were Shri Sunil Kumar Chief Secretary, Shri D.S. Mishra Addl Chief Secretary (Finance), Shri N. Baijendra Kumar Principal Secretary & Chairman NRDA, and Senior officials of State Govt. & Airports Authority of India.

Shri V.P. Agrawal Chairman AAI and Shri Subodh Kumar Singh, Secretary Aviation Govt of Chhattisgarh signed the MOU. Raigarh Airport will be the Second Airport for Domestic flights in the state. State Govt has provided 592 acres of land to AAI for Construction of the Raigarh Airport.

The Chairman AAI, while addressing the gathering, extended thanks to Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh for reducing the tax on ATF from 25 to 5%; as a result of which the number of domestic flight operations and passenger movement have increased significantly. Chairman, AAI mentioned that the Union Minister of Civil Aviation lauded at various occasions this initiative of Chhattisgarh Govt.

On this occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister declared that the tax on ATF will be further reduced from 5% to 1% on commencement of International flights from Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur. Chairman Shri V.P. Agrawal accepted the proposal & thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Chairman AAI, declared that as the MOU has been signed, the Construction of Airport at Raigarh will begin immediately on receipt of the land.

The New Airport will be constructed over an area of 592 acres at an estimated cost of Rs. 280 crores. The Airport will be developed in two phases. In the 1st phase airport will be developed as suitable for the operation of Q4 type of Aircraft having runway length of 1870 meters with width of 45 meters. The 2nd phase of the Airport will be developed for operation of A-321 type of aircraft.

Hon'ble Chief Minister termed the signing of MOU as a historic moment to Chhattisgarh as this will be the 2nd Airport of the State that will facilitate the domestic flights to various parts of the country.

Also on this occasion Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the possession of 350 acres of land to Chairman AAI for further development and up gradation of Swami Vivekananda Airport as an International Airport.

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Shri V.P. Agrawal, Chairman, AAI and Shri Subodh Kumar Singh, Secretary Aviation, Govt. of Chhattisgarh exchanged MOU, in the august presence of Dr. Raman Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh

