## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION **LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2148 (To be answered on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019)

# AIR FREIGHT STATION

#### 2148. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK

# Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up air freight stations so as to reduce the cost of operation of air cargo;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the cost of air cargo operation can be reduced through it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

### **ANSWER**

Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)

(a) to (d): The Government, in October 2014, issued Policy Guidelines on setting up of Air Freight Stations (AFSs), which are off-airport common user facilities for handling international air cargo. The objectives are broadly two-fold: reaching out to hinterland regions of the country and de-congesting the congested air cargo terminals in gateway international airports that face high dwell time.

The Air Freight Station provides an option to exporters and importers to avail of either airport cargo terminal facilities or off-airport AFS facilities for processing of air cargo based on various commercial and market-based considerations, including differences in applicable charges. Airports Authority of India Cargo Logistics & Allied Services (AAICLAS), Chennai airport is already extending 50% reduction in import handling charges to AFS clearance.

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