

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 258
(To be answered on the 3rd February 2022)**

DEVELOPMENT OF AIR CARGO INDUSTRY

**258. SHRIMATI GODDETI MADHAVI
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA
SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY
SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI
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DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI
DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether air cargo industry in India has huge potential yet it has not matched any world-class airports and if so, the details thereof;**
(b) whether the Government has assessed the reasons behind this potential remaining untapped and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to tap the market potential in terms of air cargo and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (c): The market potential of Air Cargo Industry in India is encouraging. During the Covid-19 pandemic, air cargo industry in India demonstrated its potential by air transporting essential goods, medicines, medical equipment etc. at a time when the transportation industry including air transportation of passengers had come to a standstill.

The Government has undertaken various steps to tap the market potential in terms of air cargo. These steps inter-alia include:

(i) Comprehensive National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) launched in 2016 for promoting rapid growth of the sector, ease of doing business and advanced regional connectivity.

- (ii) AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited (AAICLAS) set up as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in 2016 for business development of air cargo, logistics and allied services at AAI managed airports.**
- (iii) AAICLAS has operationalised 20 International Cargo Terminal facilities, 33 Domestic Cargo Terminal facilities and 02 Courier Terminal facilities.**
- (iv) Domestic air cargo handling has commenced from Domestic Passenger Terminals at 13 airports namely Adampur, Belagavi, Darbhanga, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Jalgaon, Prayagraj, Rajkot, Tuticorin, Udaipur and Shirdi airport (State Government operated). Additionally, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) approval has been obtained for Kolhapur, Jorhat and Lilabari airports.**
- (v) Through Air Services Agreement, efforts have been made to ensure fair and equitable treatment to Indian carriers in the international sector.**
- (vi) Airlines have been encouraged to increase their freighter strength.**
- (vii) During the pandemic, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) gave special permission to modify the passenger aircraft into freighters known as Passenger to Cargo or P2C aircraft, for efficient freight movement.**
