



THE GANDHIDHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(ESTD. 1953)

"CHAMBER BHAVAN", Plot No. 71, Sector 8, Post Box No. 58,

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No. GCCI /

348

Date: 02.11.2017

Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati
Hon'ble Minister for Civil Aviation
Government of India,
B-Block, 2nd floor, Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan,
Safdarjung Airport,
New Delhi-110003

Sub: To develop new International Airport at Kandla

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, we, The Gandhidham Chamber of Commerce & Industry is a pioneer organisation of Kandla – Gandhidham complex in Kachchh-Gujarat since 1953 with the main objective to serve as a bridge between local trade and industry fraternity and State / Central Govt. for the resolution of problems and also to endeavour for the welfare of citizens and township in public interest.

We wish to bring to your kind attention about acute need to develop and establish new International Airport at Kandla in light of the following facts.

- 1) The expansion of Kandla Airport was sanctioned many years ago, but the land for expansion was handed over to the Airport Authority of India. The existing aerodrome has limitation for the expansion as the vicinity of the aerodrome has significant commercial and residential development.
- 2) The present set-up of Kandla Aerodrome is spread over 268.2 acre and terminal building is capable of handling only 100 passengers at a time. Presently, ne flight of Mumbai – Kandla – Mumbai is operational under UDAN scheme of the central government.
- 3) With more than 200 large and medium industries within 50 kms. radios of Kandla, set-up at an investment of over ₹70,000 crore in Kachchh justifies the requirement of an international airport.
- 4) Kandla being a no. 1 major port of India coupled with private port of Adani at Mundra is an ideal location for the international airport.
- 5) Kandla & Mundra both have well developed multiproduct SEZs.

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- 6) Deendayal Port Trust (Formally Kandla Port Trust) has already made significant progress to develop Smart Industrial Port City having two section consisting of residential cum commercial and industrial.
- 7) Gujarat Government is also providing Kachchh as major tourist destination.
- 8) Central Government has decided in principle to develop Kandla as "Cruz Terminal" of international standard to develop international tourism.
- 9) With the support of two functional SEZs, there is further immense scope and opportunity also to develop international cargo complex.
- 10) This can provide an alternative to Bhuj Military Airport in case of strategic and operational requirement.
- 11) At present, Bhuj Airport is having restriction being operated by Indian Air Force and Mudra Airport is mostly non-operated regularly. Hence, Kandla is the best option to develop international airport.

In view of the above, we request you to sincerely consider our suggestion to develop new international air-port at Kandla.

Hope to hear soon from you in this regard.

Thanking you.

B.B. Humbal

Babubhai B. Humbal

President

Copy to: Shri Vinodbahi Chavda

Member of Parliament

Kachchh – Morvi Constituency