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MESSAGE

I am pleased to learn that STAT TIMES is organizing the international event, AIR CARGO INDIA 2010 in February, next year, this in itself is an indicator of the optimism in air cargo industry in India. Despite the prevailing near-term market weakness & the worldwide economic uncertainty, I am more than confident that there shall be continuous/steady growth in air cargo traffic. In the past too, the industry had, depicted amicable recoveries during the tiring times of previous economic down turns such as the Asian Economic Crisis, the 9 / 11 attacks & the SARS outbreak.

Asian air cargo market growth will continue to lead all global traffic routes & India in particular will occupy the pivotal spot in this.

Scrutiny of the report of Ernst and Young reveals that the Indian air freight market has been experiencing a strong growth in the last five years, wherein, the domestic & international air cargo traffic grew at a CAGR OF 12.6% & 13% respectively, during FY 2002-07. As per the existing market trends it is estimated that the air cargo traffic is expected to exhibit a CAGR of 13% & 14% in the domestic & international sector respectively for FY 2007-10. As per the World Air Cargo study, India is undoubtedly the leading international freight market in the Indian sub-continent. Therefore, one could infer that Indian air cargo sector is generating a lot of interest in the international air cargo industry.

I have not an iota of doubt that AIR CARGO INDIA 2010 will not only be the ideal platform but will also, offer an opportunity to the international players to come to India & obtain first hand information, so as to enable them to exploit the available opportunities. Thus, giving the desired degree of impetus to our air cargo industry.

Well, before I close I would like to take this opportunity to wish the organizers the very best & the event a great success.

(VP Agrawal)