India’s Civil Aviation Minister reiterates air cargo’s key role in country’s growth

Mumbai, January 21, 2016: India’s Minister for Civil Aviation Mr P Ashok Gajapathi Raju says that for any country’s growth the air cargo industry is very crucial and plays a vital role in the development of any economy in the world. The Minister goes on to reiterate that this is particularly true of India.

Writing in his official message to STAT Media Group, the organiser of AIR CARGO INDIA, the popular and the most networked global biennial event for the air cargo industry in India, the Minister said: “The air cargo industry plays an important role in the development and growth of any country. It has contributed a lot in the Indian economy as a result of which India is considered to be the second fastest growing air cargo market.”

Conveying his best wishes to the success of the event, Mr Raju said that the sixth edition of AIR CARGO INDIA, scheduled to take place at Grand Hyatt in Mumbai from 23 to 25 February, will prove a “valuable platform for networking the players in the air freight industry round the globe”.

India is a key aviation market and its potential for manifold growth is supported by policy reforms like privatisation of airports and foreign investment in airport infrastructure around the country. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) India is the second fastest growing air cargo market in the world. The IATA Industry Forecast for 2014-2018 also predicts India to be among the ten largest international freight markets by 2018 and it is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of about seven percent over the next five years.

The three-day exhibition cum conference, themed around “Make in India – air cargo makes it happen”, is likely to be inaugurated by the Civil Aviation Minister on February 23.

The ‘Make in India’ campaign announced by the Prime Minister of India has caught the attention and imagination of the trade and businesses within the country and outside. The campaign, designed to facilitate investment, foster innovation and build best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure, has already attracted the attention of global companies. Actually, for the ‘Make in India’ initiative to be successful the logistics sector, particularly air logistics, is so crucial and the air cargo sector is going to play a vital role in making it happen.

In fact, in his message to the organizers of AIR CARGO INDIA earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had emphasized the importance of air cargo to achieve the potential of the “Make in India” vision of the government. “The air freight sector has a key role to play in the success of the ‘Make in India’ initiative,” wrote Prime Minister Modi.
Interestingly, a week before the AIR CARGO INDIA event takes place in Mumbai the government of India will open the ‘Make in India Week’ (13 to 18 February) in the city showcasing the potential of design, innovation and sustainability across India’s manufacturing sectors in the coming decade. The week-long event, to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister, will spark a renewed sense of pride in India’s manufacturing – and take corporate and public participation to the next level.

AIR CARGO INDIA 2016 will feature the best of the global air cargo industry under one roof reiterating the fact of air cargo’s value proposition in the modern age of disruptive technology and innovation. The event will also demonstrate how different stakeholders are creating product and services to suit rapidly evolving customer demands. Along with the exhibition, the event will see a galaxy of best minds and resources participating in a three-day conference sharing the latest and modern business ideas that will help air freight industry to optimise your resources using cutting edge cost efficient solutions.

Leadership round tables and panel discussions are on a variety of subject that matter to the air cargo industry. They include: delivering the ‘Make in India’ vision to the world the air cargo way; India as a global air cargo force – potential and pitfalls; freight forwarding – evolving paradigms and embracing global best practices; India as world’s pharma export hub – global perspective from pharma shippers.

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