

Record of Discussions (RoD) during Video Conferencing held on 28.02.2020 by Hon'ble Minister of State, Civil Aviation, In-Charge {HMoSCA (IC)} with State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana on Civil Aviation related issues.

Venue: Conference Room, 2nd Floor, "B" Block, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, MoCA.

Time: From 1600 Hours to 1730 Hours.

Members Present: List of members present is at **Annexure.**

At the outset, HMoSCA (IC) welcomed all the participants present during the VC and stated that the Video Conference is being held to seek suggestions, information and challenges faced by various State Governments on Civil Aviation related issues to enhance air connectivity to various parts of the country.

Record of discussions during VC with the representatives of State Governments and decisions taken there on are as under:

Common Points of Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) for discussion with State Governments:

1. VAT rates on ATF for Commercial flights by State Governments:

With reference to the chart given below regarding Value Added Tax (VAT) on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) for commercial flights by State Governments, it is seen that VAT rates on ATF for Commercial flights charged by Karnataka Govt. is 28%, Tamil Nadu is 29% and Puducherry is 14.5%.

State Government	VAT on ATF for Commercial flights	VAT on ATF for RCS flights
Andhra Pradesh	1%	1%
Karnataka	28%	1%
Kerala	5% + 1% (Flood Relief)	5% + 1% (Flood Relief)
Puducherry	14.5%	0
Tamil Nadu	29%	1%
Telangana	1%	1%

Decision: HMoSCA (IC) emphasized and intimated the representative of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry Governments to reduce the VAT on ATF to less than 5% with immediate effect so that Domestic Airlines can sustain their commercial operations and enhance Air Connectivity to the airports located in their States. This will help the State Governments to generate additional revenue in terms of increased volume of ATF.

2. Reimbursement of VGF share by State Governments:

The following amount is outstanding to be paid by various State Governments to RACFT towards reimbursement of VGF share for RCS flights. MoCA emphasized that the same should be paid by the State Governments at the earliest.

- a. Andhra Pradesh (for Kadapa) - Rs. 11,01,54,210/- (since April, 2018 till November, 2019).

- b. Karnataka (Belgaum, Bidar, Hubli, Vidyanagar, Kalaburgi, Mysore, Gulbarga) - Rs. 7,78,25,095/- (since October, 2019 till November, 2019).
- c. Kerala (Kannur) - Rs. 5,03,63,149/- (since August, 2019 till November, 2019).
- d. Tamil Nadu (Salem) - Rs. 95,99,164/- (since June, 2018 till November, 2019).

Decision: RCS Cell, AAI intimated that the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala & Tamil Nadu should take suitable action and ensure that the outstanding amounts, as indicated above, are remitted to RACFT Account No. 36980310408, IFSC Code: SBIN0017180, State Bank of India, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003 at the earliest.

3. **Development of Water Aerodromes at Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (Telangana) and Prakasam Barrage (Andhra Pradesh):**

As per Para 2.1.2.3 of RCS-UDAN-3.0 Scheme Document, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh Governments are required to provide land free of cost and free from all encumbrances; and also provide multi-modal hinterland connectivity (road, rail, metro, waterways, etc.) as required; and sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with AAI for development of Water Aerodromes at Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (Telangana) and Prakasam Barrage (Andhra Pradesh). As per the records available in MoCA, Governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have not provided any details in this regard.

Decision: MoCA intimated that the State Governments of Telangana & Andhra Pradesh are requested to do the needful so that process for development of water aerodromes could be initiated at the earliest.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated regarding the following issues:

a. **Ramanathapuram Airport:**

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated that steps may be taken up for operation of RCS flights with 19 seater aircraft initially, since the present runway is not suitable for ATR-72 aircraft (72 seats). This may be upgraded later.

MoCA intimated that Ramanathapuram is part of RCS-UDAN Scheme of the Government. However, since the available runway at Ramanathapuram is very small, the site proposed by the State Government for airport development at Ramanathapuram is not suitable.

Decision: Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu Government assured that he will look into the matter and revert back.

b. **Hosur Airport:**

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated that during the last meeting, BIAL (Bangalore International Airport Limited) had informed that the methodology followed between GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) and Bidar RCS Airport may be emulated and same has to be pursued. Further, at least 4 RCS Flights/ routes may be permitted per day from Hosur Airport to make it viable.

Decisions:

- i. MoCA intimated that Hosur is a private airport and it is not licensed by DGCA for operation of commercial flights. State Govt. may consider seeking consent of Taneja Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (TAPL) and developing Hosur Airport under PPP mode.
- ii. HMoSCA (IC) emphasized and intimated to the Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu Government to reduce the VAT on ATF to less than 5% with immediate effect so that Domestic Airlines can sustain their commercial operations and enhance Air Connectivity to the airports located in their State. This will help the State Government to generate additional revenue in terms of increased volume of ATF.
- iii. Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu Government assured that he will look into the matter and revert back.

c. Thanjavur:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated that exchange of land between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) has to be speeded up.

Decision: Member (Planning), AAI intimated that the matter is pending with MoD since the airport belongs to IAF and a joint meeting between Secretary, CA and Secretary, Defence will be held in due course to sort out the matter.

d. Vellore:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated that land acquisition is being done and steps have also been taken up by the District Authority for diversion of State Highway.

It was intimated by Member (Planning), AAI that without diversion of State Highway, it will not be possible to operationalise airport at Vellore. As such, State Government is requested to do the needful at the earliest.

Decision: Chief Secretary, Tamil Nadu Government assured that he will look into the matter and revert back.

e. Neyveli:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu intimated that infrastructure at Neyveli Airport is ready for operation. Airline operators have to be identified quickly.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Neyveli Airport is a PSU Airport and it has not been licensed by the DGCA till date even though the said airport is part of RCS-UDAN Scheme. PSU i.e. Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Ltd. (NLCIL), with the help of AAI should take necessary steps to complete the licensing process of this airport.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA:

Discussion from Government of Telangana was led by Shri Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce, IT Electronics and Communications, along with Mr Praveen PA, Director - Aerospace and Defence; and Mr Bharat Reddy, Director - Aviation. Principal Secretary, Govt. of Telangana intimated regarding the following issues:

a. **Operationalization of Warangal Airport:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Telangana intimated that Telangana Govt. has requested MoCA and AAI to include Warangal Airport in RCS Scheme. Telangana Govt. has also intimated that GHIAL has passed resolution according approval in favour of Telangana Govt. to develop and operationalise Warangal Airport with the company (GHIAL) being appointed as an “airport operator” in line with Bidar Airport.

Decision: MoCA intimated that a meeting will be held in MoCA on 03.03.2020 at 1000 Hours with Telangana Govt. and GMR/ GHIAL to discuss regarding modalities for operationalizing Warangal Airport.

b. **Operation of Seaplanes:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Telangana intimated that Telangana Govt. has requested MoCA and AAI to include Nagarajuna Sagar Dam and Hussain Sagar for development of Water Aerodrome so that Seaplane operations could be started.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Telangana Govt. is requested to sign the MoU with AAI and provide land free of cost and free from all encumbrances so that process for development of water aerodromes could be initiated at the earliest.

c. **Training facility at Begumpet Airport in collaboration with French University:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Telangana intimated that Telangana Govt. has requested MoCA and AAI to grant permission to setup training facility at Begumpet Airport in collaboration with French University. Principal Secretary, Telangana Govt. also intimated that the rent charged by AAI at Begumpet Airport is very high which needs to be reduced.

Decision: It was suggested during the meeting by MoCA that since the training facility is being setup in collaboration with French University at Begumpet Airport, the State Govt. can consider revenue sharing model instead of rental model and send proposal to AAI.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH:

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated regarding the following issues:

a. **Development of Prakasam Barrage Water Aerodrome for Seaplane Operations:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that during bidding of RCS-UDAN-3.0, bids were received for Prakasam Barrage Waterdrome for Seaplane operations. Team of officials from AAI, DGCA, BCAS etc. was required to visit Prakasam Barrage.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Andhra Pradesh Government is yet to provide land free of cost and free from all encumbrances; and sign MoU with AAI for development of Water Aerodrome at Prakasam Barrage. As such, AP Govt. is requested to do the needful at the earliest.

b. **Bills for Fire Services and Security Equipments at AAI airports:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that AAI may be advised not to raise bills for Fire Services and Security Equipments at AAI airports under RCS. In

Andhra Pradesh, Kadapa is RCS airport owned by AAI. AP Govt. is providing reimbursement of Electricity, Water Charges and Free Security Services at Kadapa airport.

Decisions: MoCA intimated that:

- i. Fire Services and Security Equipments can be booked under the Infrastructure Fund which will be reimbursed by MoCA for RCS airports.
- ii. Manpower for Fire Services and Security is required to be provided by AP Government. These personnel can be trained by AAI.

c. **Inclusion of Kurnool Airport during next RCS-UDAN bidding process:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that Kurnool Airport, a Green Field airport, built and owned by Andhra Pradesh Government, should be included for bidding during next round of RCS-UDAN to provide Air Connectivity.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Kurnool has been included during RCS-UDAN-4.0 bidding process. In case the bids are received, the same will be intimated to State Government.

d. **Closure of existing Civil Enclave of Visakhapatnam:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that existing Civil Enclave of Visakhapatnam should be closed so that the Bhogapuram Airport project could proceed.

Decision: Chairman, AAI intimated that AAI is already in touch with State Government. The matter will be examined by AAI and needful will be done.

e. **Extension of RCS category to Kadapa Airport:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that RCS category of Kadapa Airport may be further extended for three years since RCS operations from Kadapa Airport had started on 27th April, 2017.

Decision: MoCA intimated that as per the RCS-UDAN Scheme Document, it is valid for a period of three years from the date of starting operations at an airport. Further, Kadapa airport has more than seven departures in a week; as such, the airport is neither unserved nor underserved. Accordingly, it is not possible to grant extension for Kadapa airport under RCS category at this stage. However, in case AP Govt. is interested for inclusion of Kadapa airport under RCS, the State Govt. is requested to provide additional incentives and Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support.

f. **Inclusion of Puttaparthi and Nagarjuna Sagar as RCS airports:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that Puttaparthi and Nagarjuna Sagar should be included as RCS airports in next bidding round of RCS-UDAN.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Puttaparthi is a private airport. Nagarjuna Sagar can be developed under RCS-UDAN after State Government signs an agreement (MoU) with AAI and MoCA to provide various concessions for RCS flights.

g. **Development of New Integrated Terminal for Vijayawada Airport:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that development of New Integrated Terminal for Vijayawada Airport as per the administrative sanction should be expedited by AAI.

Decision: Chairman, AAI intimated that Public Investment Board (PIB) meeting is scheduled on 11.03.2020. New Integrated Terminal Building (NITB) shall be completed within 30 months after approval by PIB.

h. **Port of Call status to the international airports of Vijayawada and Tirupati:**

Special Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh intimated that to enhance International Connectivity for AP Airports, Port of Call status should be granted to Vijayawada and Tirupati airports.

Decision: MoCA intimated that it is not possible to grant Port of Call status to Vijayawada and Tirupati airports since these are non-metro airports. However, Indian Carriers are permitted to undertake International Flights from Vijayawada and Tirupati airports, for which State Government is required to pursue the matter with Domestic Airlines and provide additional incentives.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA:

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated regarding the following issues:

a. **Formation of SPV for construction and operation of airports with AAI:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that Draft MoU was sent on 14.02.2019 from MD, KSIIDC to Chairman, AAI. Again, a reminder was sent on 29.03.2019 from MD, KSIIDC to Chairman, AAI. Second reminder was also sent on 21.05.2019 from ACS, IIDD to Chairman, AAI for suitable action.

Decision: Chairman, AAI intimated that AAI is willing to sign MoU with Govt. of Karnataka for construction and operation of airports. However, such agreement has to be based upon some charges including profit and loss agreement.

b. **Shifting of IAF Helicopter Base from Yelahanka to Mysuru and expansion of Mysuru runway:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that 280 Acres of land is required for projected expansion of runway at Mysuru. Cost of land acquisition is Rs. 333,08,20,312/- Cr. This cost should be borne by AAI as they are collecting all revenues.

Decision: Secretary, Civil Aviation intimated that the economic benefits will accrue to the State Government after expansion of runway expansion at Mysuru airport. As such, the cost should be borne by Govt. of Karnataka. AAI can go ahead with the expansion only when the land is made available by the State Government.

c. **RCS flight operations in Bidar Airport:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that Bidar Airport has been made operational w.e.f. 07.02.2020 and flights are operating on Bidar-Bangalore-Bidar sector. But, the airport was not operationalised till 07.02.2020, so MoCA is requested to intimate the status of validity period for routes and SAO. Further, MoCA is also requested to reimburse the CAPEX incurred in construction of Civil Air Terminal at Bidar airport.

Decision: MoCA intimated that since Bidar airport has been made operational w.e.f. 07.02.2020, the flights under RCS-UDAN will be operated for a period of three years from the date of operationalization of the airport in accordance with RCS-UDAN Scheme Document. AAI shall process the case for re-imburement of CAPEX cost incurred by Karnataka Government at the earliest.

d. **Permission to operate flights from DRDO built Helipad at Challakere Science City, Chitradurga District, Karnataka:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that D.O. letters were sent to MoCA on 16.05.2019 and 14.06.2019 regarding grant of permission to operate flights from DRDO built Helipad at Challakere Science City, Chitradurga District, Karnataka. An early action is requested.

Decision: MoCA intimated that DGCA would examine the matter and needful will be done at the earliest.

e. **Land acquisition at Mangalore Airport:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that AAI had requested 36 Acres land for expansion of runway at Mangalore airport. Cost of land acquisition is projected at Rs.22,65,69,00/- Cr. This cost should be borne by AAI as they are collecting all revenues.

Decision: Secretary, Civil Aviation intimated that the requirement of land at Mangalore should be relooked and rationalized by AAI at the earliest and intimation should be sent to Karnataka Govt.

f. **Re-opening of HAL Airport, Bangalore:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that KSIIDC vide its letter dated 30.01.2020 has sent a report to MoCA regarding re-opening of HAL Airport at Bangalore.

Decision: Chairman, AAI intimated that AAI is willing to sign MoU with Govt. of Karnataka regarding re-opening of HAL Airport at Bangalore based upon some charges including profit and loss agreement, which will be sorted out in consultation with State Govt./ Bangalore International Airport Ltd. (BIAL).

g. **Kalaburgi Airport:**

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that Commercial Operations started on 22.11.2019. It is requested to start international operations and set up cargo complex at Kalaburgi Airport out of capital funding by AAI.

Decision: Chairman, AAI intimated that AAI is working towards developing a Cargo Terminal at Kalaburgi and needful will be done in this regard.

h. Development of Water Aerodrome at Karwar:

Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka intimated that Water Aerodrome should be developed at Karwar to boost air connectivity and promote tourism activities in Karnataka.

Decisions:

- i. MoCA intimated that Karnataka Government is required to provide land free of cost and free from all encumbrances and sign MoU with AAI for development of Water Aerodrome at Karwar. As such, Karnataka Govt. is requested to do the needful at the earliest.
- ii. HMoSCA (IC) emphasized and intimated to the Principal Secretary (IIDD), Govt. of Karnataka to reduce the VAT on ATF to less than 5% with immediate effect so that Domestic Airlines can sustain their commercial operations and enhance Air Connectivity to the airports located in their State. This will help the State Government to generate additional revenue in terms of increased volume of ATF to the airlines.

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA:

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated regarding the following issues:

a. Kannur International Airport Ltd.:

i. Permission to Foreign Carriers to operate flights from Kannur airport:

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that Foreign Carriers may be granted approval for operating flights from Kannur and Kannur Airport may be provided connectivity with ASEAN Countries under the Open Sky Policy.

Decision: MoCA intimated that it is not possible to grant permission to Foreign Carriers to operate international flights from Kannur airport since Kannur is non-metro airport. However, Indian Carriers are permitted to undertake International Flights from Kannur airport, for which State Government is required to pursue the matter with Domestic Airlines.

ii. Reduction in Air Fare charged by Airline Operators:

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that Air Fares charged by Airline Operators may be reduced.

Decision: HMoSCA (IC) intimated that depending upon demand and advance bookings, the airfare fluctuates between minimum to maximum amount which is considered very reasonable as per the practice followed by the airline companies all over the world. HMoSCA (IC) further clarified that airlines are not allowed to charge airfares beyond the range displayed on their website. HMoSCA (IC) advised the officials of MoCA to discuss with airlines to provide additional capacity during festive seasons.

iii. Air India needs to operate Delhi - Kannur - Trivandrum, Mumbai - Kannur - Trivandrum flights and Delhi - Kannur - Kozhikode flight to be made daily instead of 5 days a week:

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that Air India needs to operate Delhi - Kannur - Trivandrum, Mumbai - Kannur - Trivandrum flights and Delhi - Kannur - Kozhikode flight should be made daily instead of 5 days a week since there are no flights on Monday and Thursday.

Decision: HMoSCA (IC) intimated that it is left to the airlines to pick up a particular route/ sector depending upon its commercial viability. State Government is advised to reduce VAT on ATF to 1% at all airports as in Kannur so that there is no disparity in the rates of VAT on ATF at various airports in Kerala.

iv. **Operations of M/s Alliance Air from Kannur to Lakshadweep Island:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated regarding flight operations of M/s Alliance Air from Kannur to Lakshadweep Island.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Lakshadweep Island is already connected from Kochi to Agatti by M/s Alliance Air. During RCS-UDAN-4.0 Bidding Round, an additional connectivity has been proposed from Kochi to Agatti as per the request of Lakshadweep Administration. In case, Government of Kerala is keen to provide connectivity from Kannur to Lakshadweep Island, Kerala Govt. is required to make VGF payment for the sector and the route will be considered as State-RCS (S-RCS) route.

v. **ILS installation at 07 Runway of Kannur Airport:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that as ILS has to be installed at 07 Runway of Kannur Airport and a team of officials of AAI have to be sent immediately for technical study.

Decision: Member (Plg.), AAI intimated that ILS installation at Kannur airport is already in progress and it should be completed by 30th June, 2020. However, an amount of Rs. 9.5 Cr. is outstanding against Kannur Airport towards ANS charges. Accordingly, Kerala Govt. is requested to issue directions to Kannur Airport to deposit the outstanding amount of Rs. 9.5 Cr. with AAI at the earliest so that ILS installation could be completed in time.

vi. **Kannur to be developed as aviation hub:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that since Kannur has so much of industrial land available for development, Kannur airport could be developed as aviation hub.

Decision: Secretary, CA advised that Kerala Govt. should initiate process to develop Kannur airport as MRO and Cargo Hub, which will provide additional economic benefits to Kannur airport in particular and Kerala State in general. Needful in this regard is required to be done by Kerala Govt.

vii. **Kannur Airport as Haj Embarkation point:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that Kannur Airport should be made Haj Embarkation point from the next Haj season.

Decision: HMoSCA (IC) intimated that Embarkation points to operate Haj flights for the current year have already been finalized. However, the matter can be considered

to operate Haj flights from Kannur airport during the next year depending on the request of Kerala Govt.

b. **Trivandrum International Airport:**

i. **Operation of duty free shops at Trivandrum Airport:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that the operation of duty free shops has been closed at Trivandrum Airport.

Decision: MoCA intimated that Commercial Department of AAI will look into the matter regarding operation of duty free shops at Trivandrum Airport. In case, Kerala Govt. proposes to operate duty free shops, they can approach AAI.

ii. **Vacant slots of M/s Jet Airways:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that M/s Jet Airways had closed their operations throughout India. Their vacant slots have to be operated by other air carriers to have better connectivity and reduce the air fares.

Decision: MoCA intimated that guidelines regarding distribution of vacant slots of M/s Jet Airways have been issued and a transparent process would be followed.

iii. **Commencement of Saudia Flights from Trivandrum Airport to Saudi Arabia and Fly-Dubai flights to UAE:**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that Saudia Flights may be started from Trivandrum Airport to Saudi Arabia and Fly-Dubai may be permitted to operate flights from Trivandrum to United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Decision: MoCA informed that Kerala Govt. has four International Airports and many Foreign Air Carriers pick up their passengers from Kerala to UAE/ Gulf countries to proceed to Europe and North America using a hub and spoke model. On the request of Foreign Carriers, some State Governments are making request to MoCA to grant permission for additional frequencies without understanding the impacts involved in the process. MoCA has a policy in place to encourage domestic airlines to mount more flights on international destinations to expand the sector.

iv. **Handing over custodianship of International Cargo and Courier Terminal to AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited (AAICLAS):**

Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala intimated that custodianship of International Cargo and Courier Terminal should be handed over to AAICLAS for operation.

Decisions:

A. Chairman, AAI intimated that AAICLAS will do the needful for the operations of International Cargo and Courier Terminal at Trivandrum airport and a meeting in this regard has been convened at Kannur airport on 06.03.2020.

B. HMoSCA (IC) also intimated that all other remaining issues of Kerala Govt. could be discussed during the proposed meeting with Hon'ble CM, Kerala on 21st March, 2020.

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry intimated regarding the following issues:

a. **Puducherry Government has intimated the following:**

i. **Connectivity to Coimbatore, Kochi, Chennai and more connectivity to Hyderabad and Bangalore:**

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry intimated that at present Puducherry is connected to Hyderabad and Bangalore in the Forenoon session. There is no flight in the afternoon. For operations during entire day at Puducherry Airport, Airline Operators may be requested to commence flights with western part of the country such as Coimbatore, Kochi and Chennai, etc.

Decision: MoCA intimated that State Government should reduce the VAT on ATF to less than 5% and provide incentives to the airlines to provide additional connectivity to Puducherry. Puducherry Govt. may also interact with the airlines during WINGS INDIA, 2020 being organized from 12th - 15th March, 2020 at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad for enhancing connectivity to Puducherry.

ii. **Conversion of Aerodrome License of Puducherry Airport from Visual Flight Rules (VFR) to Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) category:**

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry intimated that Aerodrome License of Puducherry Airport may be converted from VFR to IFR category.

Decision: Member (Ops.), AAI intimated that there are some obstacles at Puducherry Airport at present which need to be removed for conversion of Airport License from VFR to IFR Category. In addition, the existing runway has to be extended and State Government is required to provide additional land free of cost and free from all encumbrances for conversion of Aerodrome License of Puducherry Airport. As such, Puducherry Govt. is requested to do the needful at the earliest.

iii. **Extension of Puducherry Airport for operation of bigger aircraft:**

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry intimated that runway of Puducherry Airport may be extended for operation of bigger aircraft like Airbus-320/ 321.

Decision: Member (Ops.), AAI intimated that for extension of existing runway at Puducherry Airport, State Government is required to provide additional land free of cost and free from all encumbrances. As per the information available with AAI, some land is available in Puducherry and the remaining land falls in Tamil Nadu State. Puducherry Govt. is requested to do the needful in this regard at the earliest and intimate AAI regarding availability of land for extension of runway at Puducherry airport.

The VC ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair and all the participants.

List of Members who attended the meeting through Video Conferencing (VC) held on 28.02.2020 by Hon'ble Minister of State, Civil Aviation, In-Charges {HMoSCA (IC)} with State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana on Civil Aviation related issues:

S N	NAME	DESIGNATION	ORGANIZATION
1	Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairperson	Minister of State (IC) for Civil Aviation	Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)
2	Shri P. S. Kharola	Secretary	MoCA
3	Shri Arvind Singh	Chairman	AAI
4	Shri S. K. Mishra	Joint Secretary	MoCA
5	Smt. Usha Padhee	Joint Secretary	MoCA
6	Shri R. K. Maheshwari	Advisor	MoCA
7	Smt. Garima Singh	Director	MoCA
8	Shri Rajeev Jain	ADG (M&C)	MoCA
9	Shri Ayush Mani Tiwari	DDG	BCAS
10	Smt. Navika Gupta	Deputy Director (PIB)	PIB, MoCA
11	Shri S. N. Dwivedi	Consultant, RCS Cell	MoCA
12	Shri D.C. Sharma	Deputy Director General	DGCA
13	Shri A. K. Pathak	Member (Planning)	AAI
14	Shri I. N. Murthy	Member (Ops)	AAI
15	Shri V. K. Gulati	Member (ANS)	AAI
16	Shri H. S. Suresh	ED (Engg.) SR	AAI
17	Capt. Raj K. Mallik	ED (RCS Cell)	AAI
18	Shri Pradeep Kumar	GM (RCS Cell)	AAI
19	Smt. Sangeeta Mahay	GM (Arch.)	AAI
20	Shri P. Pratap Reddy	ASO, DT Section	MoCA
21	Shri C. S. Subbiah	CEO	M/s Alliance Air
22	Shri Mohit	Network Engg.	NIC, MoCA
