



MESSAGE

India is currently the third largest domestic civil aviation market in the world: it is forecast to soon become the third largest overall aviation market. With around 200 million passenger trips annually now, we foresee Indian aviation market to grow more than five times to a billion trips in the next decade or two. Indeed, we are building our infrastructure with such a vision.

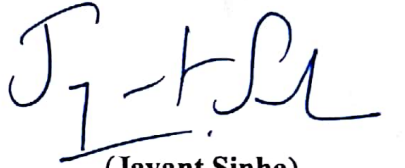
Our airlines, airports and other stakeholders in the aviation community have worked hard to offer world-beating and yet low-cost services to the consumer. This has led the Aviation sector in India to emerge as one of the fastest growing sectors during the last five years. It is a matter of pride that even as passenger traffic, number of planes and number of airports have increased dramatically, our safety, quality and customer service scores have improved substantially.

India is open for business. India has amongst the most liberal Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policies in the aviation sector across the world. We allow 100% FDI in airports and many other associated businesses and a significant minority position in airlines. We are liberal in our Open-Sky-Policy and have allowed many ports of call within the country. We incentivize Make in India for anyone wanting to set up their manufacturing base here in India.

There are global challenges in aviation: safety and security, tackling climate change, and the new, nascent and emerging technology of drones. These challenges will require international coordination in setting standards and deploying effective counter-measures without hampering customer convenience or growth.

I am confident that this global event will give the participants an idea of opportunities inherent in Indian aviation and offer a platform to discuss on global challenges. I expect the deliberations and networking will be immensely useful for the participants.

I wish the event all success.



(Jayant Sinha)

January 7, 2019