

## **DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL AVIATION**

### **Calling Attention tabled by Shri. Aleixo R. Lourenco, MLA**

Sir,

The Manohar International Airport at Mopa has been conceived and established after due feasibility study conducted through expert agencies viz. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regarding the sustainability of both the airports in the State of Goa.

Hence, merely because one of the National carrier Air India has expressed its intention to shift its international operations from Dabolim Airport to Mopa or for that matter by any other international airlines, may not have much impact on the tourism industry in South Goa. The attraction of tourists to any region does not depend only on one parameter of being in the vicinity of the airport. The overall development of the tourism infrastructure in a region determines its touristic potential.

Since the entire Goa State is likely to become an International Tourist Hub, there is a tremendous potential for growth of tourism in the entire state including the utility of both the airports in Goa. As there will always be a limit for expansion of even the Manohar International Airport. Hence the significance of Dabolim Airport cannot be undermined and it shall always be very needful facility for the development of the Tourism in the Goa State.

Although the airport at Dabolim has certain limitations, its significance for boosting the overall economic development of the State cannot be undermined as indicated below

1. NOTAM (Notice to Air Mission) at Goa International Airport at Dabolim restricts the total time available for operations i.e. 08.30 am to 12.30am IST and 2.30pm to 3.30pm IST.
2. Capacity of Dabolim Airport is already saturated .
3. Current Airlines operating out of Goa International Airport  
Qatar Airways, Air Arabia, Gulf Air, Oman Air, Air India, Air India Express and Aeroflot only 01 movement of each airlines operating

4. Existing Connectivity from Pernem to Cancona via NH 66 and vice versa will allow passengers landing at Dabolim to take a connecting flight or a return flight from Mopa and vice versa.
5. Goa will get a huge boost for Tourism if the frequency of Scheduled Operators increases at either airports
6. Increasing Non Aeronautical Revenues at Dabolim , there appears to be important commercial market opportunities to increase spending per head ratio , especially for departing passengers thereby improving the airports financial performance while satisfying an existing demand for goods and services

The Government is committed to ensure the continuity, viability and sustainability of the Dabolim Airport along with that of the Manohar International Airport.