

## भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

AI/CHO/REV/AERA/AS/Kolkata-MYTP/2012

25<sup>th</sup> Oct.2012

The Secretary,

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India,

AERA Building, Administrative Complex,

Safdarjung Airport,

New Delhi-110003

Sub: Comments of AAI on the Stakeholders observations on AERA C.P. No. 17/2012-13 dated 30.08.12 - Multi Year Tariff Proposal and Annual Tariff proposals for NSCBI Airport, Kolkata.

Madam,

Kindly refer to your AERA letter no. AERA/20010/MYTP/AAI-Kolkata/2011-12/Vol.-II/1753 dated 17th October, 2012 seeking AAI's comments on the observations made by the stakeholders on AERA C.P. No. 17/2012-13 dated 30.08.12.

In this regard, the comments of AAI on the observations of the stakeholders are enclosed as annexure-A. In addition, AAI comments on the C.P. No. 17/2012-13 dated 30.08.12 are also enclosed as annexure-B.

Yours faithfully,

**Executive Director(Finance)** 

Encl.: As above.

राजीव गांधी भवन Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan

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## ANNEXURE-A

SL.	STAKEHOLDER'S OBSERVATIONS ON	AAI COMMENTS
NO	AERA C.P. 17/2012-13 DT. 30.08.12 - MYTP & ATP FOR NSCBIA	
1	Hong Kong Dragon Airlines (Dragonair)	
1.1)	COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL IN GENERAL	
	It is our view that the time allowed for parties who are interested in the subject to provide inputs to the Consultation Paper is inadequate. The Consultation Paper was published on 30 August 2012 allowing responses to be submitted latest by 28 September 2012, thereby giving less than four weeks for interested parties to provide a response. Given the complexity of the issue; the amount of documents that need to be perused; the need to meet with the Authority concerned to understand the issue; and the need to seek opinions from advisors on the subject, the allowed time is grossly insufficient. In other countries where similar consultation process is conducted, a period of at least three months would be given and the process would start six to eight months in advance. In this respect, it would appear that the whole consultation exercise is not meaningful at all since in-depth analysis of the proposals cannot be conducted within the short time-frame. In any	While appreciating the concern of stakeholder, it is pertinent to mention that one & half year of current control period has already elapsed, any further delay in finalization of tariff determination will ultimately impact the tariff rates.
	case, we are providing our comments to the Consultation Paper to meet the deadline in good faith and it is probable that supplements may be provided when we have the time to more thoroughly review the issues within our organisation.  It is noted that the aeronautical charges, be it User Development Fee and Landing Charge, are vastly different for domestic carriers and international	The facilities extended to domestic and international passengers/carriers are not the same. Further, charging different rates for
A TT .	carriers. We understand these charges are the same for the same group of users. However, in accordance with the principle of non-discriminatory application of charges, these charges and in particular the Landing Charge should be the same for both domestic and international carriers. Charges for using such services and facilities should be worked out on	domestic and international carriers is prevalent at many foreign airports also.

<b>(</b> *)		basis of the efforts related to their usage, not on basis of domestic or international operation, or stage length of the flights as it bears no correlation at all.	
	1.2)	COMMENTS ON IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED TARIFF ADJUSTMENT	
14	(g)	The proposed increase in Aeronautical Tariff put forward by NSCBIA is astoundingly exorbitant. It is a very drastic increase of 118% in international landing charges and 83% in parking & housing charges. This will inevitably cause a very huge financial impact to the airlines.  It is apparent that charge increase at such a drastic level will only serve to further dampen demand, compel airlines to review the commercial viability	AAI formulated its MYTP proposal for NSCBI Airport, Kolkata as per AERA Guidelines for determination tariff for Airport Services after taking into consideration various aspects including fresh investment made for Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building, Projected revenue and expenditure etc and accordingly computed the ARR for the
36	2)	of the route, or choose other airports as transit stops. Airports play a very critical role in the economy of India. If there were further reduction of services and traffic, the consequence would be a move backward in the public good role of the airport thus affecting the economic development of India, lowering regional prosperity to the benefit of competing airports and cities.	current control period. However, keeping in view the concern of all the stakeholders, AAI itself in its ATP proposed to recover only part of the ARR during the current control period and balance ARR in the next control period. Had AAI proposed to recover the entire ARR in the current control period itself, the tariff increase would have been much higher. In view of this AAI seeks support from all the stakeholders for implementation of the current proposal of AAI for providing better facilities at the airport.
2. 4.(9)		COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC POINTS ABOUT THE CARGO FACILITY SERVICES AT NSCBIA  The tentative decision to approve AAI's proposal to continue levying the existing rates for the various cargo facility services during the remaining period of first control period is inappropriate. Cargo Facility is part of the airport operations and therefore the tariff should be determined altogether as a whole. The broad understanding between AAI and Trade Bodies on the tariff for cargo services that were fixed in consultation with the Trade over annual escalation of 5% in cargo rates should be revisited in conjunction with this MYTP, rather than taking the "light touch	AAI had submitted a separate proposal for Cargo services as per AERA's Cargo Facility, Ground handling and supply of Fuel to Aircraft Guidelines dated 10 <sup>th</sup> January, 2011 (CGF Guidelines). As per CGF Guidelines, Cargo services provided by AAI at Kolkata airport for the first control period meets the criteria for services to be assessed as "Material but competitive", hence tariff for cargo services has been filed separately and same is considered under "Light Touch Approach" by AERA. Further, it is clarified that AAI in its ATP
4(2)		approach" as suggested for the first control period. Otherwise, there will be an issue that the proposed tariff for airport services is subsidizing the cargo services.  The original value of fixed assets, accumulated depreciation, accumulated capital grants,	proposed to increase the existing cargo tariff by 8% p.a during the remaining control period.



subsidies or user contribution which are the components for computing the Regulatory asset base, those depreciation cost and other investments are to a certain extent also of being used by the freight operations, hence the calculation of the tariff should include the cargo facilities and operations into the whole picture. All those costs towards the modernization of NSCBIA are on the high side during the first control period, and with the high Aggregated Revenue Requirement proposed by AAI, it is unfair to have this burden to be solely borne out by the airport users only. It is in our view that these costs should also be shared among all the facilities' users, including freight operations. With the significant traffic growth of 7.77% for international cargo, the cargo volumes would have a great impact to the overall computation of the annual aeronautical charges.

It is not correct to infer that entire burden of tariff increase is passed on to passenger airlines. The increase in landing and parking charges is also applicable to Cargo Freight Operators. The MYTP for Cargo services has been prepared as per AERA Guidelines considering the relevant factors, including projected traffic growth etc.

1.4)

Project

## COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINATION OF THE PROJECT COST

The details of the project costs were not included in the consultation paper, though the costs were categorized as Civil works, Electrical...etc, the level of details is insufficient. This makes the justification difficult as no detail background to consider if those costs involved are entitled to be included in the airport project.

The project cost is approved by the Ministry of Civil Aviation of India, however, there is no prior detailed and public discussion or consultation among the airport users, who eventually are the stakeholders that need to bear the costs.

Breakup of Project cost was available in the Annexure-III of the C.P. Further, Asset-wise & year-wise capitalization considered for the 1<sup>st</sup> control period was given in Form F10(a) of MYTP (Annexure-II of C.P.)

The project for construction of new integrated terminal building at Kolkata airport was approved by the competent authority, prior to issue of AERA Guidelines for User consultations. However, User Consultation will be followed in respect of future investments as per AERA Guidelines.

1.5)

COMMENTS ON THE PERIOD TO TRUE UP/CORRECTION OF VARIOUS COSTS AND REVENUE

The Authority proposed to true up the actual costs or revenue while determining tariffs for the next control period, however, in other international airports in USA, these should be done at the end of each year.

In order to have a clearer picture of the cost and revenue involved in the project and to be fair to the facilities users, yearly reconciliation of all costs and revenues should be considered.

Stakeholders are aware that that present MYTP pertain to 1<sup>st</sup> Control Period (20011-12 to 2015-16) and one & half years of the control period has already elapsed. AERA has taken a tentative decision regarding Error Correction and Annual Compliance Statement (Tentative Decision no. 12), wherein AERA has proposed that NSCBIA should submit the Annual Compliance Statements for the individual tariff years of the first control period along with the MYTP for the next control period.

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8	2.6)	COMMENTS ON THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE  The basis to determine the annual increase in Staff Cost, Repairs and Maintenance, Utility and Outsourcing Expenditure, Administrative and General Expenditure is not mentioned and disclosed in the consultation paper, this makes the justification difficult. With the lack of transparency of these operation and maintenance expenditures, it is hard for the airlines to comment whether the proposed % is justified or not.	Key assumptions for Revenue, Expenses and traffic growth etc. assumed by AAI are given in the annexure-II of Consultation paper.
(8	1.7)	COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC POINTS ABOUT THE FAIR RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL (FROR)  The calculation and justification of one of the	Beta is a measure of systematic risk. Systematic
		factors in determining the FROR, the asset beta, is determined by using the sample airports suggested in the paper of KPMG. There are no specifications of the selection criteria of these	risks capture the business risks of the company visa-a-vie other securities listed on the stock exchange.
8	grat	"comparable airports" to be chosen. The median value (0.92) of asset beta for these selected airports to be used as the estimation of the asset beta for AAI airports is questionable. Furthermore, given the fact that it was mentioned in the paper the average asset beta for Chennai airport can be taken at 0.61 (on the basis of the comparator set used by National Institute of Public Finance and	Since there is no listed airport operator in India, M/s KPMG had considered Betas of listed airport operators in the emerging markets as a proxy for the systematic risk of AAI.  In view of above, the methodology adopted by the KPMG for estimating asset beta for AAI is appropriate.
	s	Policy (NIPFP)), without taking into account any risk mitigating factors, we do not understand the reason and rationale behind on the calculation why 0.92 was proposed to be used instead.  For the calculation of the Cost of Equity (Re), one	Airport Operations is highly capital-intensive and high risk sector, which is also exposed to financial and systematic risks. Considering the above, it is appropriate the estimate market rate of return (Rm) based on the market return indicator of BSE Sensex.
8	(bT) =4	of the components being used is the expected rate of return on the market portfolio (Rm). The market rate of return(Rm) has been calculated using the BSE Sensex, which is a free-float market capitalization-weightedstock market index of 30 well-established and financially sound companies listed on Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). The 30 component companies which are some of the largest and most actively traded stocks, are representative of various industrial sectors of the	Higher proportion of debt in the capital structure may be appropriate in case of new companies formed for the purpose of undertaking the new projects. This is not the case in case of AAI, which is already in existence and managing the airports and generating the internal resources from the airport operations. As such AAI opted to finance the project mainly from internal resources. Further, in case of
		Indian economy. However, given AAI as the government solely owned company, the expected return should not be the same as the private sector. Hence, by using market return indicator of BSE Sensex for the benchmark of the expected	higher debt also, there would be outflow on account of servicing the debt. Further, it is also mention that AAI Act also permits creation of Reserve fund for the purpose of up-gradation of existing infrastructure and creation of new



		rate of return is inappropriate and obviously on the high side.	facilities Accordingly, the accumulated reserve fund has been utilized by AAI for financing of
	g(c)-	In addition, it is mentioned in the consultation paper that there are still uncertainties in estimation of the different parameters which are used to determine the FROR and as a result suggest accepting FROR of 15% for this control period as suggested by AAI to provide for sufficiently generous allowance for such uncertainty in estimation. However, our view is that it is inappropriate to give allowance for the uncertainties of FROR as this will greatly affect the end result of the annual tariff proposal.	the project.
P	8G)-	It is also noted that the debt to equity ratio of AAI is at the level of 9.6% which is comparatively very low to a healthy company. It is mentioned in the Delhi Tariff Order that the proportion of debt of around 60% in the capital structure could be regarded as an efficient means of finance. The high FROR is basically due to the fact that the majority of the financing comes from equity instead of debt, whereas the cost of equity is 7.61 percentage points higher than the cost of debt. It is very obvious that there should be a need to readjust a reasonable balance on the proportion of debt vs equity in the financing structure of AAI, especially given the current low interest-rate environment. The airport users should not be penalized or paid for the inefficient financing structure of AAI. We strongly object to the proposed FROR in the consultation paper.	
	1.8)	COMMENTS ON EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW TARIFF	
	7.9) (8.5)	The new tariff of this MYTP should only be effective from the date when the new facilities and terminals are available to be used by the airport users. It is inappropriate and unfair to the airport users in advance paying for the high tariff while they are still using the old facilities.	The project works relating to construction of new integrated terminal building &other facilities are complete and new facilities are likely to be commissioned shortly.
	1.9)	SUMMARY	
<b>&amp;</b> '	10/9/	The absence of data details has precluded a more in-depth analysis to be conducted on the various levels of increases proposed. It is suggested that apart from observing the principles as enshrined in the price regulation framework, the ICAO recommendations such as transparency, non-	The requisite details of project cost, Revenue, Expenses & Traffic growth etc. considered by AAI for formulation of MYT proposal for NSCBIA is available in the C.P.
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discrimination and adequate consultations in respect of airport charges setting should also be followed. In addition due cognizance has to be taken in respect of the strategic value of NSCBIA and its contribution to the economy of India

We believe only through a complete review and revision by the Government of India of the terms in the pre-defined framework upon which price determination of aeronautical tariff in respect of NSCBIA is constructed would ensure a right balance is struck between the investors of NSCBIA and the users. If not, the competitiveness of NSCBIA will be severely weakened thereby adversely affecting the growth being planned for and ultimately the economic development of India at large.

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AERA has processed the AAI's MYTP for NSCBIA as per the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.

On basis of the aforementioned comments, and a fair account of charges to the users of NSCBIA could be maintained, we urge the Government of India to:

 Make visible the financial performance of NSCBIA preferably in the form of a business plan of NSCBIA for a <u>reasonably</u> <u>lengthy period</u> in the life span of the project; Govt. of India has set up independent regulator for the economic regulation of major airports. AERA has established the regulatory framework for major airports after a thorough consultative process, wherein all the aspects pertaining to regulatory philosophy and approach towards regulation of major airports were finalized. Accordingly, AAI formulated its MYTP proposal as per Guidelines issued by AERA for determination of Tariff for Airport Operators.

2. There should be **NO** discriminatory charge on rates for international and domestic flights, in particular, the landing fees where the use of the same runway for international and domestic carriers.

The facilities extended to domestic and international passengers are not the same. The differential charges for domestic and international flights have been worked out considering market conditions. Such practice of charging different rates for domestic and international carriers is prevalent at many foreign airports also.

3. Take cargo facility services into the determination of MYTP instead of using the 'light touch approach" in the 1<sup>st</sup> control period. It is unreasonable and unfair that due to the previous broad understanding between AAI and Trade Bodies over annual escalation of 5% in cargo rates, then the other airport users

The MYTP for Cargo services has been considered under 'Light Touch Approach" by AERA as per their Guidelines on the MYTP for the airport operators.

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	should be penalized.	
10	4. Make effort moving quickly towards an efficient financing structure where higher debt to equity ratio should be adopted. As a result to derive a lower Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) or FROR, this will be beneficial to the whole airport and airport users.	
		Please refer para 1.7 above
	5. Given there are still many uncertainty factors such as the estimation of different parameters for WACC; time for AAI to move towards an efficient financing	7.10000 10101 parto 211 02000
P8-5		
	Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Ltd (Dragonair). Strongly requests that the proposals be reconsidered in light of the comments made in this submission.	
2	IATA	
2.1)	Introduction	
P3-1	IATA strongly objects to the use of a consultant paid for by a vested party(AAI) to assist with AERA's deliberations pertaining to tariff determination for an AAI airport. It throws into doubt the true independence of the entire tariffdetermination process.	The Consultant is appointed at the instance of AERA for examining the proposal submitted by the AAI. The Consultant reports directly to AERA and providing consultancy services to them in the matter. Hence there is no conflict of interest.
2.2)	Cargo Facility Services at NSCBIA - Regulatory Approach	
2.	AAI's proposal for an annual increase of 8% should not be allowed as therehad been no user consultation to settle on an agreed rate of increase. The8% increase sought is also higher	As per AERA's Cargo Facility, Ground Handling and Supply of Fuel to the Aircraft Guidelines 2011 (CGF Guidelines, 2011), Cargo services provided by AAI at Kolkata airport for the first control period meets the criteria for services to

		separately and same is considered under "Light Touch Approach" by AERA. Tariff increase for Cargo services by 8% p.a. is part of over-all Stakeholders consultation meeting on MYTP & ATPs for Kolkata airport.
2.3)	Airport Services at NSCBIA – Regulatory Approach	
3(9)	2.3) The treatment of revenue derived by the airport in the area of cargo servicesas non-aeronautical revenue is inconsistent with the categorization of cargoservices as aeronautical services in the AERA Act. It is also inconsistent withthe way fuel throughput fee (which is revenue derived by the airport for another type of aeronautical service defined in the AERA Act i.e. fuelservices) is treated which is an aeronautical revenue for the airport operator.	The revenue from Cargo services has been treated as aeronautical revenue in the MYTP. It is pertinent to note that the revenue from Cargo has been duly considered for arriving at ARR for the airport. Hence there is no inconsistency in treatment cargo services as aeronautical services. Further, AAI has formulated MYTP as per the Single Till approach of regulation. Since, the ARR calculation under single till is done considering the total revenue
18m	IATA believes that it would be appropriate to consider revenue derived by the airport in the area of cargo services (as with the areas of ground handling andfuel services) as aeronautical revenue for the airport operator.	of the airport, including revenue from Cargo, fuel throughput, etc., the treatment of revenue from cargo services as aeronautical or otherwise will not have any impact on the overall tariff determination for the airport.
30)	The proposed solution is not ideal as it results in costs being wrongly allocated among two different groups of users (passenger airlines and freighter airlines) and is therefore in contravention of ICAO's cost-based charging policy. AAI must take immediate steps to separate costs between airport operation and cargo services to facilitate a more appropriate andequitable tariff determination process.	AAI had prepared MYTP for Airport and Cargo services at Kolkata airport as per the Guidelines issued by AERA. The costs pertaining to airport and cargo have been separately identified and apportioned accordingly.
2.4)	Project Details	
P 4 Ps-3	As AAI has clearly stated its intention to not use the existing InternationalTerminal Building after commissioning of the New Integrated TerminalBuilding, AERA should exclude the asset value of the existing Terminal Building in the current control period rather than address this only on the nextcontrol period.	The observation of stakeholder is noted and AAI shall abide by the decision of AERA.
2.5)	Regulatory Asset Base	
5 ps.34	AAI's depreciation periods for the main capital spend fall well below theranges shown in ICAO Doc 9562 – Airport Economics Manual (an extract ofthe relevant table is as follows)	AAI is charging depreciation as per the policy approved by AAI Board. The depreciation policy of AAI has been formulated after considering the factors such as minimum useful service life

	Examples of range of depreciation periods		of various assets based on technic
	Building(freehold)	20-40 years	assessment, obsolescence etc. The depreciation policy adopted by AAI is also accepted
	Buildings(leasehold)	Over a period of lease	C&AG.
	Runways & Taxiways	15-30 years	
	Aircraft parking areas	15-30 years	
	Furniture and fittings	10-15 years	
	Motor Vehicles	4-10 years	
	Electronic	7-15 years	
50 A	equipment(including telecommunications equipment)		
	General equipment	7-10 years	
8.4	Computer equipment	5-10 years	
0 1	Computer software	3-8 years	*
	mismatch with the global of airport assets such a runways. AAIhas to review be more in line with global to avoid front-loading unsustainablyhigh airport for NSCBIA, AERA must costs formajor asset	at are in line withglobal	
6)	Traffic Forecast	*	
		use of CAGR in itself for	Since, there is a gap between CAGR and A

between CAGR and AAI projected traffic growth rates, in order to take balanced view, AERA had decided to consider traffic growth based on average of CAGR and AAI projected growth rates.



forecasting traffic growth isan acceptable methodology and averaging is not necessary and unjustified.Furthermore, given that the airport's capacity will be significantly enhanced, the potential for stronger traffic growth is greater provided that airport chargesare kept moderate. A traffic projection used for determination can be self-fulfilling if the resultant higher charges puts a drag on growth. AERAshould work on a realistic scenario that can stimulate traffic growthparticularly since a shortfall if it happens will be trued up in the next controlperiod.



2.7)	Revenue from services other than aeronautical services	
(3)	The increase in commercial areas at the new airport provides a huge upsidepotential for AAI to boost its non-aeronautical revenue. IATA agrees withAERA's proposal to true up the actual receipts from non-aeronautical revenuewhile determining tariffs for the next control period. Additionally, IATAbelieves that AAI should be encouraged to increase the contribution of non-aeronautical revenue at Chennai? IATA supports the idea of setting theforecast of non-aeronautical revenue provided by AAI as a floor in the truingup process as this can provide the necessary impetus to AAI to strive forhigher non-aeronautical revenue.	All effort will be made to increase the share of non-aeronautical revenue.
2.8)	After Chennai International Airport, NSCBIA has the second highest fuelthroughput fee in the whole of India by virtue of a flawed tender process in 2007 which caused the fee to increase by 17 times. There is no justification for allowing this already high concession fee which has no cost	The Fuel Throughput Charges at Kolkata airport has been finalized based on transparent competitive bidding process and the expected revenue from Fuel Throughput Charges has been taken into consideration for determination of tariff.
88-5	basis toautomatically escalate at 5% per year because of a contractual agreementwith a monopoly which the oil marketing companies had little choice but tosign. Notwithstanding the fact that revenue from fuel throughput fees wouldbe treated as aeronautical in nature for determination of aeronautical tariffs, AERA should set the fundamentals right by not permitting a fee that has nocost basis to escalate automatically every year.	In case 5% increase is fuel throughput charges is not allowed the revenue shortfall on this account will have an impact on tariff of other revenue components (aeronautical services).
2.9) 7(C)	In the AERA Act, ground handling services, fuel supply services and cargoservices are classified as aeronautical services. On that basis and as amatter of consistency, licence fee from ground handling should be treated asaeronautical revenue in the same way that fuel throughput fee is treated. Aspreviously mentioned, royalty fee from cargo services should also beregarded as aeronautical	AAI has formulated MYTP based on Single Till Basis. Considering royalty from Ground Handling Agency as non-aeronautical revenue as per AAI or as aeronautical revenue as suggested by IATA, will not have any impact on the over-all tariff determination.
2.10)	cost of Equity, Cost of Debt, Leverage, Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC) and Fair Rate of	
10	Return (FROR)	AAI diaggrap with the IATA/-
18-6	IATA disagrees with this assumption. NSCBIA has a stable and predictablerevenue stream which is	AAI disagree with the IATA's contention.  Normally higher debt proportion in the capital

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936	appropriately financed by debt. For NSCBIA, inthe absence of proper debt/equity data, AERA must use the notional debtequityratio of 1.5 to protect users against unfair cost pass-through arisingfrom the airport's own inefficiency.	structure is desirable in case where new companies formed for the purpose of undertaking the new projects. This is not the case with AAI and is already in existence and managing the airports and generating the internal resources from the airport operations. As such AAI opted to finance the project mainly from internal resources. Further, in case of higher debt also, there would be outflow on account of servicing the debt.
		In addition, AAI Act also permits for creation of Reserve funds for purpose of up-gradation of existing infrastructure and creation of new facilities. Accordingly, the accumulated Reserves have been utilized for financing of project.
2.11)	The current debt-equity proportion for AAI is clearly very inefficient. It isunacceptable that AAI is allowed to extend this same inefficient financingstructure to future capital funding, leaving the users to bear the brunt of thisinefficiency. In a competitive market which economic regulation issupposed to emulate, AAI would have been driven to attain a more efficientfinancing structure in a short span of time. AAI must be compelled to movequickly towards attaining such an efficient capital structure. AERA, as itsmandate requires, must protect the users by ensuring that the higherfinancing cost does not get passed through.	As per para 2.10.

2.12)

It is unacceptable that AERA proposes to accept AAI's WACC figure for NSCBIA of 15% in spite of some skewed assumptions made by KPMG inderiving the figure such as:

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- (i) using a comparator set that is limited to countries like China, Mexicoand Malaysia which is at odds with AERA's position that the comparator set should not be restricted to developing/emerging countries;
- (ii) deriving an asset beta by using a median value of an inappropriate comparator set
- (iii) taking NSCBIA's gearing ratio to be the same as that for AAI as awhole

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(iv) Using a grossly inefficient financing structure for future fundingrequirements.

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IATA has prepared its computation of the appropriate WACC in its earliersubmission to AERA's Consultation Paper No. 16/2012-13 on tariffdetermination for Chennai International Airport. This same computation isequally applicable to NSCBIA. IATA's computation takes into considerationthe use of an optimal gearing ratio (60%) and the relatively low risk of theregulated airport business given that many of the significant risks have beeneliminated through the truing up mechanism. The computation isreproduced for NSCBIA and included as an attachment to this submission. The computation shows that WACC of 9.3% would be appropriate for NSCBIA.

Beta is a measure of systematic risk. Systematic risks capture the business risks of the company visa-a-vie other securities listed on the stock exchange.

Since there is no listed airport operator in India, M/s KPMG had considered Betas of listed airport operators in the emerging markets as a proxy for the systematic risk of AAI. Consultant had taken a filtered approach while identifying comparable airports, like — country of operations - Emerging markets, Business model, Regulatory environment and Liquidity of the stock.

In view of above, the methodology adopted by the KPMG for estimating asset beta for AAI is appropriate.

Higher proportion of debt in the capital structure may be appropriate in case of new companies formed for the purpose undertaking the new projects. This is not the case in case of AAI, which is already in existence and managing the airports and generating the internal resources from the airport operations. As such AAI opted to finance the project mainly from internal resources. Further, in case of higher debt also, there would be outflow on account of servicing the debt. Further, it is also mention that AAI Act also permits creation of Reserve fund for the purpose of up-gradation of existing infrastructure and creation of new facilities Accordingly, the accumulated reserve fund has been utilized by AAI for financing of the project.

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## **Quality of Service**

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IATA views that it is inequitable for airlines to pay higher charges fromthe third tariff year and not have the recourse for a rebate in the event ofobvious service quality shortfalls. AAI must be required to put in place its processes/procedures within the next six months (by end of secondquarter 2013) instead of a year so that there is sufficient time buffer toensure that these processes/procedures are indeed installed before

Considering the fact that one & half year of current control period has already elapsed. A transition period of year one for implementation of service quality measurement and determination of any rebate is reasonable for making appropriate systemic and procedural changes in line with Service quality requirement of AERA guidelines. AAI will put in place systems/procedures at the

	thestart of the fourth tariff year.	earliest within the time frame fixed the AERA.
2.14)	Annual Tariff Proposal	
13	The notion that airport charges need to go up significantly because ithas not been raised for a number of years is clearly flawed. Annualincreases in airport charges is not a given and is not common practiceglobally. Airport charges could in fact go down as a result of economiesof scale and the airport increasing its proportion of non-aeronauticalrevenue. At many airports around the world, airport charges haveremained stable for many years. This has facilitated air traffic growthand brought benefits to all stakeholders in the industry. The absence of significant capital investment at many airports in India including NSCBIA coupled with additional aeronautical revenues derived from strong traffic growth justifies the absence of any increases in the past.	It is not correct to say that AAI has not made any significant capital investment at many airports in India including NSCBI in the past.  AAI continuously making capital investment for development of Airport infrastructure across the country in the past for providing better facilities to the passengers and airline operators  The total investment made by AAI at various airports during 10th plan period (2002-2007) and 1½th Plan period (2007-2012) was Rs 3534.62 crores and Rs 11868.40 crores respectively.  In spite of the above ,AAI has not increased any Tariff since 2002 except a small increase of 10 % in 2009.
2.15)	AAI's mission is: 'To achieve highest standards of safety and quality in airtraffic services and airport management by providing state of the artinfrastructure for total customer satisfaction contributing to the economicgrowth and prosperity of the nation'. Its mission is clearly different from thatof the private sector whose sole focus is on maximizing shareholders' returns. AAI's mission should be a primary consideration when determining airport charges. The steep increases proposed in the Consultation Paperwould dampen traffic growth at NSCBIA and consequently adversely impact economic growth and prosperity of India. AAI should be concerned as the outcome would run contrary to its mission.  • The differential in landing charges between	Keeping in view the AAI's mission, AAI has constructed the new integrated terminal building along with up-gradation of other airport infrastructure at Kolkata airport to provide better facilities to the Users and formulated the MYTP as per the AERA guidelines.
14 b (i )	international and domesticflights contravenes ICAO's policy on cost-based charging. There is nojustification for an aircraft using the same landing facilities to be chargeddifferently by virtue of where it came from. Contrary to what some maysuggest, this is not common practice around the world. IATA has beenurging AAI to correct this for many years already and now looks towardsAERA to ensure that ICAO policies are	The differential landing charges for domestic and international carriers/flights have been worked out considering market conditions. Such practice of charging different rates for domestic and international carriers/flights is prevalent at many foreign airports.

<ul> <li>adhered to.</li> <li>The differential between international and domestic UDF (at 2.5 times) does not justify the</li> </ul>	Considering the facilities provided to the passengers, The different UDF rates have been
thesetwo groups of passengers. AERA would be aware that the CompetitionCommission of India has issued an advisory to the Ministry of Civil Aviationmentioning the discriminatory	proposed for domestic & international passengers.
development fees between international anddomestic passengers that are charged at DEL	
international and domestic UDFs should bebrought to parity.	
• As mentioned previously, there is no justification for an annual increase infuel throughput fee which is a concession fee without any cost basis.	The Fuel Throughput Charges at Kolkata airporture has been finalized based on transparer competitive bidding process and the expecte
	revenue from Fuel Throughput Charges habeen taken into consideration for determination of tariff.
	In case 5% increase is fuel throughput charges not allowed the revenue shortfall on th account will have an impact on tariff of other revenue components (aeronautical services).
As mentioned previously, the 8% annual increase proposed by AAI is not supported as there was no evidence of user consultation. The rate is	Tariff increase for Cargo services by 8% p.a. part of over-all Stakeholders consultation
alsosignificantly higher than the 5% per annum which AAI claimed waspreviously agreed with trade bodies.	meeting on the current MYTP & ATPs for Kolka airport.
HPCL	
The Fuel Throughput Charges at NSCBIA Kolkata as proposed by AAI to be increased by 5% per annum for the year 2012-13 effective 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2012.	Statement of fact.
Existing FTC rate Rs. 1213.72/ KL, to be revised as proposed by AAI Rs.1277.56/KL in this regard we	The existing FTC rate is Rs 1216.72/KL not F 1213.72/KL.
FTC as mentioned for the year 2012-13, may be approved effective 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2012 and order may please the 31 <sup>st</sup> October.	AAI intends to implement tariff increase for fu throughput charges as per ATP submitted table.
1	
	The differential between international and domestic UDF (at 2.5 times)does not justify the difference in usage of airport facilities between thesetwo groups of passengers. AERA would be aware that the CompetitionCommission of India has issued an advisory to the Ministry of Civil Aviationmentioning the discriminatory development fees between international anddomestic passengers that are charged at DEL which ideally should be thesame. IATA agrees that international and domestic UDFs should bebrought to parity.  As mentioned previously, there is no justification for an annual increase infuel throughput fee which is a concession fee without any cost basis.   As mentioned previously, the 8% annual increase proposed by AAI is not supported as there was no evidence of user consultation. The rate is alsosignificantly higher than the 5% per annum which AAI claimed waspreviously agreed with trade bodies.  HPCL  The Fuel Throughput Charges at NSCBIA Kolkata as proposed by AAI to be increased by 5% per annum for the year 2012-13 effective 1st November, 2012. Existing FTC rate Rs. 1213.72/ KL, to be revised as proposed by AAI Rs.1277.56/KL in this regard we wish to offer our comments as under:  FTC as mentioned for the year 2012-13, may be approved effective 1st November, 2012 and order

	basis, applicable from first day of the subsequent month, in which AERA issues the order.	AERA.
4)	Indian Oil Corporation Limited	
4.1)	The Fuel Throughput Fees or Airport Operator Fees of Rs.1216.72 per KL was approved by the Authority vide order no. 07/2010-11 dated 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2010, for Kolkata Airport, w.e.f1.04.2010an ad hoc basis.	Statement of fact.
(11)	We have on earlier occasions requested the Authority that while approving tariffs/rates for various services related to supply of fuel, revisions if any, may please be made from prospective date.	As per para 3.2.
(', , )	It is noted that the Authority has proposed revision of Fuel Throughput Fees at Netaji Subash Chandra Boss International Airport, Kolkata, from Rs.1216.72 per KL to Rs/ 1277.56 per KL for Financial Year 2012-13, effective 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2012. It is observed that the revised Fee is 5% escalated over the earlier approved Fees. It is further noted that the escalations in future are proposed @ 5% w.e.f 1.04.2013, 1.04.2014 and 1.04.2015.	Statement of fact.
4.4)	We welcome that proposed decision of the Authority with regard to revision of Fuel Throughput Fees on prospective basis, as was being requested by us. However, in case NIL escalation of the fuel Throughput Fees is proposed by Airports Authority of India, as mentioned during the stakeholder meeting of 17 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012, it would be welcome by all stakeholders.	As per para 3.2.
4.5)	It is requested that final approved for Fuel approval for Fuel Throughput Charges by kindly issued before 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2012, so that recovery of the revised fees can be started from the applicable date of 1 <sup>st</sup> Novembe, 2012. However, in case, final approval of the Authority is expected to be issued latter that 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2012, the effective date for applicability of the revised Fuel Throughput Fees may please be deferred accordingly	As per para 3.2.
5.	BPCL	
5.1)	Prospective Date of Order effecting increase: As	

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per Clause 7.8 of the Consultation Paper, the As per para 3.2. Authority proposes to approve 5% increase in throughput fee as per the contractual agreements with the Oil Marketing companies' w.e.f 01.11.2012, with further increase of 5% per annum w.e.f 01.04.2013 and Authority proposes to approve the above proposal. However, should there be any unforeseen delay in coming out of Order beyond 1st November, 2012, we request you to make the effective date of charging Throughput Fee on prospective basis as Oil companies are recovering from airlines at adhoc rate as approved by Authority. The reason we have been reiterating the above in all our replies, is that, it is very difficult to recover throughput fee from Airlines from any back date. It is very difficult to recover past differential

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all our replies, is that, it is very difficult to recover throughput fee from Airlines from any back date. It is very difficult to recover past differential charges, not only from some Scheduled Airlines, but also from any Non-Scheduled Airlines/aircraft as the transaction is consummate after fuelling and realization of invoice value recovering adhoc approved Throughput Fee.

5.2) Overwhelming Market Power of AAI as Airport Operator and role of AERA: It is pertinent to note The Fuel Throughput Charges has been finalized that in February 2007 when AAI came out with at Kolkata airport based on transparent tender for Kolkata airport, AERA Act had not been competitive bidding process and the expected enacted and there was no regulation of Fuel revenue from FTC has been taken into Throughput Fee as aeronautical charges. It meant consideration for determination of tariff that any eligible Oil Company participating in accordingly. tender process for the piece of land has no compunction in quoting any throughput fee as it would be a pass-through item BPCL had represented to AAI that such steep rise in Fuel Throughput is grossly unjustified. However, despite our protests, we were asked to match and pay the fee quoted by highest bidder. As per AERA Act, 2008, the authority has to now perform functions, in respect of major airports, which include determining tariff for the 2(.0) aeronautical services taking into consideration the parameters and factors provided in Section 13 of Act. We feel that Fuel Throughput Fee should not be increased even by 5% for the following key reasons: There is no rationale for charging Fuel Throughput Fees as it does not have cost basis: Fuel Throughput Fees significantly increases the cost of fuel; and Airport Operators had used overwhelming market power for fixation of charges. 6) Federation of Indian Airlines(FIA) 6.1) In the context of CP No. 17 of 2012-13, it isre The capex of Rs 2,938 crores for the control following spectfully submitted that the period comprises of cost of mega project gaps/lacunae must be addressed by works, including Integrated terminal building, the Authority before concluding the present pro extension of runway and additional Aircraft ceedings:parking bays etc. amounting to Rs 2325 crores. Balance amount of Rs 613crs is towards other (a) The Consultation Paper does not at capital works, including cargo works, parallel present prudently examine or explain the taxi track etc. and not escalation of project reasons for accepting escalation of project CO st fom Rs. 2,325 to Rs. crores 2,938 crores. There is almost 26.4% increase in Since the PIB has already recommended for

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approval of project cost of Rs 2325 crores and

AAI is the competent authority to approve the

balance project works costing Rs 613 crores as per Delegation of Powers of AAI, the same has

figures

the

MoCA").

project

cost

(b)By leaving the project cost to be trued up,

approved by Ministry of Civil Aviation

from

the

Authority is indirectly allowing AAI to further es calate the project cost without realizing that e xisting 26.4% escalation in project cost is way extra than what MoCA had approved.

(c) It is settled position of law that future consumers cannot he burdened with additional costs as there is no reason as why Such theyshould bear the brunt. quick-fix attitude is not acceptable. As such, the approach in the Consultation Paper does not a ppear to deal with the presenteconomic realiti es and interests of consumers while proposing the tariff in its present form. Authority being a creature of statute is under a duty to balance interest of all the which stakeholders and consumers. it is mandated to do under the AERA Act.

(d) Authority has proposed the determination of tariff for 5 years commencing from 2011-12. Therefore, Authority's proposal for tariff determination is retrospective, which impermissible. In this regard, reliance is placed on Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgme nt in Binani Zinc Ltd. Vs. Kerala State Electricit y Board & Others reported as (2009) 11 SCC 2442, wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that "It is only after the Regulatory c ommission is constituted that it will be the sol e authority to determine the tariff". Thus, Tariff cannot be determined retrospectively.

(e)There is also no clarity regarding the date on which from which the Multi Year Tariff Order pursuant to the present consultation will come into effect from. Authority has only indicated date for revised tariff of the cargo facility from 01.11.2012.

(f) In respect of the future projections, the Aut hority is cognizant of the fact that expenditure partly includes inflation e.g. in case of Salary and Wages (Dearness Allowan ce). It is submitted that considering, WPI of 6% has been separately considered, all the expenditure should be delinked from inflation and accordingly Annual Revenue Requirement ("ARR") needs to be adjusted.

been included in RAB for the control period. Moreover, Capex considered for the control period is subject to error correction mechanism. As per AERA guidelines all the investments during the control period are tobe considered.

AAI formulated MYT proposal as per AERA's Guidelines and the same has been processed by AERA as per AERA Act/Guidelines on the subject.

AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.

The ARR calculation has been worked out considering the Control period of 5 years period commencing from FY 2011-12, however Tariff revision is proposed to be implemented prospectively as per ATP submitted to AERA.

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		AAI intends to implement tariff increase for all aeronautical services as proposed in the ATPscontained in annexure-IV of the Consultation Paper.
,		The increase in salary and wages projected by 7% is on account of annual increment in basic salary, increase in perks including HRA, Provident Fund contribution, promotions etc., which are directly linked to basic salary. Whereas, WPI of 6% considered in the proposal caters to the increase in costs due to inflationary factors.
7/4	Process IssuesA perusal of the CP No. 17/2012-13 points out that Authority has: (a) Not appointed its own Auditor/Consultant as per Section 14 of the AERA Act. (b) Not undertaken the exercise of 'Determination' or given reason for its consideration tow	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.
Pg-3	ards various airport charges. (c) Not directed AAI to conduct User Consultation in respect of major capital projects. (d) Left almost all the components of aeronaut ical tariff for 'Truing Up'.	
6.3)	Re Appointment of Auditor by the Authority It is submitted that the Authority ought to	The Consultant is appointed at the instance of
132	carry out its own assessment for determination of aeronautical tariff. The purpose of appointing an independent and external consultant is to enhance the	AERA for examining the proposal submitted by the AAI. The Consultant reports to AERA only for the consultancy services provided to
1/2,	credibility of data being relied upon by	AERA. Hence there is no conflict of interest.



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	obaining written reasonable assurance froman independent source. It is submitted that in addition to technical competence, independe nce is the most important factor in establishing theoredibility of the opinion. In current scenario, all the external consultants have been directly engaged by AAI which compromises the independence of opinions expressed by them.	
6.4)	It is submitted that under Section 14(b) and Section 14(c) of the AERA Act, Authority is empowered to engage its own consultants or direct any of its officers or employees to make an inquiry in relation to the affairs of any service provider. There is nothing on record which shows that AAI has engaged any such Consultant of its own.	
6.5)	Re. 'Determination' by the Authority	
87	Section 13(1)(a) of the AERA Act requires the Authority to 'determine' the tariff for aeronautical services. Any 'determination' by a statutory authority must clearly show the application of mind and analysis carried out by the authority. However, in the present case, the Authority has proposed increase in various charges (for instance FTC, Landing Charges, Parking Charges etc) but has failed to provide any justification or analysis for the same.	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.
6.6) B/8	It is submitted that Section 13(1)(4)(c) of the AERA Act mandates that any decision by the Authority must be fully documented and explained. In this regard judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Ashok Leyland Ltd. Vs. State of Tamil Nadu and Anr. reported as (2004) 3 SCC 1 (FB)(at Para 94) is noteworthy. Hon'ble SupremeCourt has held that the word 'Determination' must also be given its full effect to, which presupposes application of mind and expression of the conclusion. It connotes the official determination not a mere opinion or	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.

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	finding. The <b>Hon'ble TDSAT</b> has also held	
	that determination requires application of mind in the Judgment dated 16.12.2010 in	
	Appeal No 3(C) of 2010 titled as ZEE Turner	
	Ltd. Vs. TRAI &Ors. (At Para 150).	
6.7)	It is submitted that Authority has proposed	
	to:	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in
1.1/	(a) Levy User Development Fee (" <b>UDF</b> ")	accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and
1 Dr	(b) Increase Fuel Throughput Charges ("FTC")	AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport operators.
	However, Authority has neither provided any	
J.	reason for considering either introducing	The Aggregate Revenue Requirement(ARR) for
	levy of UDF, the purpose of UDF, justification	the 1 <sup>st</sup> control periodworked out as per the
	of UDF at the rate of Rs. 400 per domestic	AERA Guidelines has been split in to various
)a (	embarking passenger and Rs. 1000 per inter	components like Landing, Parking, UDF,
N)	national embarking passenger nor provided	Throughput Charges etc. Any reduction in one component will automatically lead to increase
4	any reason for considering 5% increase in	in the other.
	FTC.	in the other.
6.8)	It is submitted that order passed by an	Drecont managed is sult a Country
0.0,	administrative authority, affecting the rights	Present proposal is only a Consultation paper where stakeholder Comments have been
	of parties, must be a speaking order support	where stakeholder Comments have been invited. Refer para 15.3 of C.P.
	ed with reasons. Attention is invited to the	milited. Refer para 15.5 of C.F.
1	judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in	
NVO	the case of Kranti Associates Private Limited	
7	& Another Vs. Masood Ahmed Khan &	
	Others reported as (2010) 9 SCC 4966. The	
124	Hon'ble Supreme Court's findings are	
62.	reproduced below for ease of reference: ,	
	"51. Summarizing the above discussion, this	
	Court holds:	
	a. In India the judicial trend has always been	
	to record reasons, even in administrative	
	decisions, if such decisions affect anyone	,
	prejudicially.	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	b. A quasi-judicial authority must record	
	reasons in support of its conclusions.  c. Insistence on recording of reasons is mean	
	t to serve the wider principle of justice that	
	justice must not only be done it must also	
	appear to be done as well.	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
	d. Recording of reasons also operates as a	,
	valid restraint on any possible arbitrary	
	exercise of judicial and quasi-judicial or even	

administrative power.

- e. Reasons reassure that discretion has been exercised by the decision maker on relevant grounds and by disregarding extraneous considerations.
- f. Reasons have virtually become as indispens able a component of a decision making process as observing principles of natural justice by judicial, quasi-judicial and even by administrative bodies.
- g. Reasons facilitate the process of judicial review by superior Courts.
- h. The ongoing judicial trend in all countries committed to rule of law and constitutional governance is in favour of reasoned decisions based on relevant facts. This is virtually the life blood of judicial decision making justifying the principle that reason is the so ul of justice.
- i. Judicial or even quasi-judicial opinions these days can be as different as the judges and authorities who deliver them. All these decisions serve one common purpose which is to demonstrate by reason that the relevant factors have been objectively considered. This is important for sustaining the litigants' faith in the justice delivery system.
- Insistence on reason is a requirement for both judicial accountability and transparency.
- k. If a Judge or a quasi-judicial authority is not candid enough about his/her decision making process then it is impossible to know whether the person deciding is faithful to the doctrine of precedent r to principles of incrementalism.
- I. Reasons in support of decisions must be cogent, clear and succinct. A pretence of reasons or `rubber-stamp reasons' is not to be equated with a valid decision making process.
- m. It cannot be doubted that transparency is the sine qua non of restraint on abuse of judicial powers. Transparency in decision

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making not only makes the judges and decision makers less prone to errors but also makes them subjectto broader scrutiny. (See David Shapiro in Defence of Judicial Candor (1987) 100 Harward Law Review 731-737).  n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is now virtually a component of human rights.	
makes them subjectto broader scrutiny. (See David Shapiro in Defence of Judicial Candor ( 1987) 100 Harward Law Review 731-737).  n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	
makes them subjectto broader scrutiny. (See David Shapiro in Defence of Judicial Candor ( 1987) 100 Harward Law Review 731-737).  n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	
David Shapiro in Defence of Judicial Candor ( 1987) 100 Harward Law Review 731-737).  n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	
1987) 100 Harward Law Review 731-737).  n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	,
n. Since the requirement to record reasons emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	1
emanates from the broad doctrine of fairness in decision making, the said requirement is	1
in decision making, the said requirement is	
now virtually a component of human rights	
and was considered part of Strasbourg	
Jurisprudence. See (1994) 19 EHRR 553, at 5	
62 para 29 and Anya v. University of Oxford	
2001 EWCA Civ 405, wherein the Court refer	
red to Article 6 of European Convention of	
Human Rights which requires, "adequate and	
intelligent reasons must be given for judicial	
decisions".	
o. In all common law jurisdictions judgments	
play a vital role in setting up precedents for	
the future. Therefore, for development of law	ĺ
, requirement of giving reasons for the	
decision is of the essence and is virtually a	
part of "Due Process"."	
6.9) In view of the foregoing submissions, it is	
undertake the exercise of 'Determination' by	3
on ( )	9
on any issue and the increase in	
aeronautical tariff.	
6.10) User Consultation should be undertaken by	1
the Airport Operators	1
The Authority in its AERA Guidelines has The present project at NSCBIA	for
stated that the Airport Operator shall construction of new integrated ter	minal
undertake user consultation with Airport building and up-gradation of other a	
UsersConsultative Committee (AUCC) on infrastructure has been planned and tak	en up
major capital projects planned at the airport. prior to issue of AERA guidelines on	
The major capital projects shall be defined   Consultations. However, subsequent in	
as capital investment projects that max capital investment projects will	be
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s Base ("RAB") at the beginning of the contr	
ol period or Rs.50 crores,	
whichever is the lower amount.	
6.11) AAI has not undertaken the User As per para 6.10 above.  Consultation and has stated that the work	
on the Project of construction of New	

	Integrated Terminal Building at NSCB	
	International Airport, Kolkata commenced well	
	before the Authority's AERA Guidelines on	
1,	the User Consultation came into force and	
10	the project at the CCD Internation LA	
	the project at the SCB International Airport,	
	Kolkata already had the approval of the	
100	Competent Authority. However, AAI has	
10/	conveyed that capital projects in future will	
0	be undertaken as per the Authority's User	a de la companya de l
1	Consultation protocol. Further, AAI has	
	clarified that the work on the Project of	
	construction of New Integrated Terminal	
	Building at NSCB International Airport, Kolkat	
	a, commenced with the approval of the	
	Competent Authority much before the	
	Authority's Airport Guidelines on the user	*
	consultation came into force. Thus, AAI has	
	not conducted the User Consultation.	,
6.1		The
0.1		The competent authority to approve the project
	Authority has not specified the 'Competent	for construction of new integrated passenger
	Authority', which has approved the 'Project o	terminal building, extension of secondary
	f construction of New Integrated Terminal	runway, construction of rapid exit taxi, aprons
6	Building at NSCB International Airport, Kolkata	& associated works at a cost of Rs.2325 crores
	'. This aspect is relevant since, AAI has not	is Central Govt. and PIB (Public Investment
0.4	conducted the User Consultation on the	Board) has already recommended for the same.
A.	strength of its approval from the 'Competent	As regards, remaining works costing Rs 613
	Authority'.	crores is concerned; AAI is competent authority
6 1	)) It is submitted that the	as per DOP.
6.13	7 7 10 10 10	It is reiterated that the mega project at
	completed and AERA Guidelines are in	NSCBIA for construction of new integrated
. 11	place since 28.02.2011. Therefore, AAI ought	terminal building etc. had been planned and
011	to have undertaken a User Consultation	taken up prior to issue of AERA guidelines on
-1	process instead of only relying upon prior	User Consultations. However, user
M-	approval of the 'Competent Authority'.	consultation will be undertaken for future
		projects as per AERA Guidelines.
6.14	True-up exercise should be conducted	Statement of fact.
	sparingly by the Authority	
10	In the present CP No. 17/2012-13, the tariff	
PI	b plan is subject to truing up in next control	
KD.	period with respect to following variables:	
Z,	(a) Project Cost	
Λ.	(b) RAB, Roll Forward RAB and depreciation	
1/1	(c) Traffic Forecast	
0		
	(d) Non Aero Revenue	
	(e) Operation and Maintenance expenditure	
	(f) Taxation	

7,	(g) Shortfall in collection of UDF
6.15)	It is submitted that in the present case not
	only Authority has not applied its mind but
	indiscriminately left aforementioned
	components for future in the garb of truing
	up exercise during next control period. In
	this context, judgment of APTEL in the case
	of BSES Rajdhani Power Limited vs. Delhi
-	Electricity Regulatory Commission reported
_1	as 2009 ELR (APTEL) 880s is extracted below
D/17	It is submitted that in the present case not
1 1	only Authority has not applied its mind but
	indiscriminately left aforementioned
	omponents for future in the garb of truing
	up exercise during next control period. In
	this context, judgment of APTEL in the case
	of BSES Rajdhani Power Limited vs. Delhi
	Electricity Regulatory Commission reported
12617	as 2009 ELR (APTEL) 880s is extracted below
1011	"116. Before parting with the Judgment we
	have to remind the Commission of the
	observations in our Judgment in Appeal No.
	265
	of 2006, 266 of 2006 and 267 of 2006 in the
	case of North Delhi Power Ltd. v. Delhi Elect
	ricity Regulatory Commission in which we
	said the following:
	Before parting with the Judgment we are
	constrained to remark that the Commission
	has not properly understood the concept of
	tring up. While considering the Tariff
	Petition of the utility the Commission has to
	reasonably anticipate the Revenue required
	by a particular utility and such assessment
= =	should be based on practical considerations.
	The truing up exercise is meant (sic) to fill
18	the gap between the actual expenses at the
	end of the year and anticipated expenses in
l	the beginning of the year. When the utility
	gives its own statement of anticipated
	expenditure, the Commission has to accept
	the same except where the Commission has
	reasons to differ with the statement of the
	utility and records reasons thereof or where
1	the Commission : 11

the Commission is able to suggest some

AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for the airport operators.

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method of reducing the anticipated expenditure. This process of restricting the claim of the utility by not allowing the reasonably anticipated expenditure and offering to d the needful in the truing up exercise is not prudence.  117. All projections and assessments have to be made as accurately as possible. Truing up is an exercise that is necessarily to be done as no projection can be so accurate as to equal the real situation. Simply because the truing up exercise will be made on some day in future the Commission cannot take a casual approach in making its projections. We do appreciate that the Commission intends to keep the burden on the consumer as low as possible. At the same time one has to remember that the burden of consumer is not ultimately reduced by under estimating the cost today and truing it up in future as such method also burdens the consumer with carrying cost."  This judgment has been followed by APTEL in various other cases like NDPL vs. Electricity  Regulatory Commission reported as 2010 EIR (APTEL) 891  In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that Authority; should not leave everything to true up and attempt to make all the projections and assessments a accurately possible on the basis of available data.  Material issues for tariff determination it is submitted that the present consultation paper raises inter alia the following important and critical questions for consideration of the Authority:  (a) Whether the claim of AAI for increase in Aeronautical Tariff is justifiable on financial economic basis? (b) Under what circumstances, when and to what extent can such diversion in project cost be permitted to be revised without complying with the requirements	) <del></del>		
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what extent can such diversion in project cost be permitted to be revised without NSCBIA.	0		
cost be permitted to be revised without NSCBIA.			There is no deviation in cost of mega project at
to be revised without			
COMPINITE WITH THE THUMPHIS!			
of prudence?			
The rule 89 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 permit		or pradefice:	The rule 89 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 nermit
The same of the sa			ретин

	(c) Is levy of UDF permissible under the	the licensee to levy and collect at a major
	relevant law? If so, for what purposes can	airport the User Development Fee at such
1	levy of UDF be termed justifiable?	rate as may be determined under clause (b)
	(d) Is Authority's reliance only on AAI's data	of sub-section (1) of section 13 of the Airports
-	for determining following is justifiable:-	Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act,
1/10	(i) Operating Expenditure is one of the major	2008.
1111	components for determining ARR?	
	(ii) Non-aeronautical revenue i.e. revenue	The proposal of AAI is as per the Guidelines
	generated from services other than aeronauti	issued by AERA for airport operators and AERA
	cal services?	has processed the proposal as per the provision
	(e) Can the proposed Aeronautical tariff be	of AERA Act.
	considered as a fair, just or reasonable claim	
	of AAI in a prudent, regulated, price	
	cap mechanism as envisaged under the Act	
	read with the AERA Guidelines of the Author	
	ity?	
6.18)	ISSUEWISE SUBMISSIONS IN RESPONSE	
0.10)		
1	Escalation in Project Cost should not be allowed	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
-1		Statement of fact
AIR	Project cost of Rs.2,938 crores (Rs.2,325	Statement of fact.
1	crores for New Integrated Terminal Building	
1 1	and associated works and additional capex of	
118-0	Rs.613 crores) is under consideration in the	
1 ' '	present consultation for the purpose of the	
2 2 2 3	current tariff determination.	
6.19)	As per the CP No. 17/2012-13, additional	The competent authority for approving the
	project cost aggregating to Rs.613 crores	other capital projects planned at a cost of Rs
10/1	include Rs.458 crores towards strengthening	613 crores& considered in the MYTP is AAI as
MA	of Runway, Airfield Lighting etc. and Rs.155	per the delegation of powers.
	crores toward cargo facilities up-gradation	
010	and is approved by AAI Board prior to the	
117.0	issue of Airport Guidelines. However, the CP	4
.0	No. 17/2012-13 does not mention about any	
	approval from MoCA for such additional CAP	
	EX of Rs.613 crores.	
6.20)	FIA has done a comparison between the	The Total area of the new Integrated Terminal
	increase in capex from the original	building at NSCBI Airport Kolkata is as follows:
	sanctioned amounts between IGI Airport,	Passenger areas 67700 sq m
	Delhi and NSCB International Airport, Kolkata.	E&M services in basement 29000 sq m
18/22	It is noteworthy that on the basis of cost	
(	per square meter of built up area, it seems	Relocated sub station 3000 sq m
- 6	that check on project cost at NSCB	Service yard 11000 sq m
10-0	International Airport, Kolkata is suffering	
0	from the same infirmities which was noticed	Total 233000 sqm
	in the case of escalated project cost at IGI	



			ving table d	emonstrates	Total cost of Project Rs 2325 Cro	res
	the said comparison:-				Less	
	Particulars				a) Payment to Electricity board	1F.o.r
	IGIAirport, Delhi				b) Cost of Runway Extn	15cr 100cr
	Terminal-3 and					
1/2	Associated Building 6693			93	c) Interest during construction Total	70 cr
1/20	(Rs. in cror				Total (-) 185cr	
	Area (sq m		543321			
		metres (Rs)	123,187		Cost of project Rs 2325-185cr = 21	40cr
199	Kolkata Airport				Cost of project N3 2323 10361 - 21	14001
1-1	Project cost for			Cost per sqmts 91,845 per sq	. metre	
d	Modernisa	tion and			Therefore the cost per Sqm.	of expanded
	Expansion	of CIA			terminal is less than IGIAirport	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	comprising	domestic			prudence and value engineering	
	and i	nternational		* **	in firming of the project prop	
	terminal	building,		, "as " 11 " 11 " 1	appraisal stage.	oosais at the
	elevated c	orridor and	1	25	appraisar stage.	
	1 1	ks including				
		y, extension	1			
	of runv		10 <b>1</b> 1			
	construction					
		the Adyar				
	river (Rs in				[1] 이 1일 시간 1일	
	Area (sq m		-	198692		
				117015		
	Cost per sq metres (Rs) Variation From IGI		11/015			
	Airport, De		1	5%		
21)		her a comparison of capex per square			At Chennai Airport the total are	a of the new
			International Airport,		Terminal building is as follows:	
		Kolkata and Chennai International A			Domestic Terminal 67700 so	
3	reveals 36% difference in capex per square				International Terminal 59300 sq	
1	meter.				Air Side corridor bay 35 14590 sq m	
18"					Total 141590 sq	m
N'			Chennai			
0	Particular	NSCBIA,	Internation		Parameter and the second second	
9	s	Kolkata	al Airport	Variance%	Total cost of Project Rs	2015 Crores
	Area				Less	
1.	(New)	198,692	127,000	64%	a) Face lifting works	141.60 cr.
	Domestic	119,741	67,700	1	b) Payment to Electricity board	50 cr
	Internatio			-	c) Cost of Runway Extn	465 cr
	nal	78,951	59,300		d) Interest during construction	70 cr
	CAPEX for				Total (-) 726.60 cr	
	New					
				a a	Cost of project Rs 2015-726.60 cr	= 1288.40 cr
	Terminal	.*:			Cost per sqmts 91,000 per sq	
1	Building				52,555 per 54	
	(INR	23,250	20,150	1		

	Million)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Therefore the cost per Sqm. at NSCBI , Kolkata
	Cost per		150.661	2.00/	International airport and Chennai International
120	Sq. mts.	117015	158,661	36%	airportis nearly the same.
6.22)	It is subr	nitted tha	it capex is	the most	Suggestion noted.
		ictor in			Suggestion noted.
A 2	aeronautical	tariff. He	nce, it is crit		
101			mark with		
1-16	Μ	apex per		meter is	
N 19	established	by the Au	thority. Any s	spend over	
1 6			be absorbed		
	airport oper	ator as pa	rt of its busin	ness risk.	
6.23)	Without pre	ejudice to	the above, it	is respect	
1 1 1	fully submit	ted that	even if the	claim be	
8/2	treated as		and admiss		
B to			er and decide		
09 10			al investment		(a) AAI's MYT proposal has been formulated
149.			Regulatory A	sset Base	as per AERA guidelines.
"		secured		eturn on	
			al employed?		(b) AFRA has presented the present of AA1;
			each claim	•	(b) AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in
			g the lines		accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines on MYTP for airport
	established accounting standards and				operators.
	practices whichwould disallow unreasonable, unfair or extravagant expenditure.				operators.
1					
			out 26.4% es		(c ) There has been no escalation in the cost of
4			raises questic t cost. Such i		mega project amounting to Rs 2325 crores. The
	the proje				Rs 613 crores considered in the MYTP is the
		by the		strictly	cost of other capital works planned at NSCBIA
		-		The second secon	during the control period not the escalation in
	merely placing its reliance on submissions of AAI				the cost of mega project.
6.24)	<del></del>	ature of st	atute, the A	uthority is	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in
			the docum		accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and
	conduct pru				tariff is being determined as per the AERA
14/	E and		covery ofeffic		Guidelines on MYTP for the airport operators.
ATO	prudent cost	s while pr	eventing usur	ious wind	
1	falls, viz			2 4 1 5	*.
10/	(a) Section	13 (1)(a)	(i) of the	AERA Act	
61-11	envisages th	at the Au	uthority shall	consider	
14 1	the actual ex	penditure	incurred and	timely in	
	vestment in	improveme	ent of airport	facilities.	
			2 2		* ************************************
	(b) It is subn	nitted that	prudence ch	neck is an	

	intrinsic and essential part of the process of tariff determination as is also evident from Section 13 of the AERA Act. Any expenditure incurred by AAI cannot be accepted by the Authority on the face of it and passed on to the consumers directly or indirectly. The Authority is required to evaluate the claims made by AAI and only after satisfying itself through a rigorous prudence check which involves:-  (i) Scrutiny of the expenditure made by AAI and assessment of whether the same has been reasonably and properly incurred.  (ii) Examining the resultant benefit from the said expenditure in terms of enhanced efficiency.  (iii) Appraising the working parameters of the utility with the prevalent norms,	
	the utility with the prevalent norms, benchmarks and standards.	
6.25)	In view of the foregoing, it is submitted	AERA has processed the proposal of AAI in
6.25)	that for any increase in cost, the Authority	accordance with the provisions of AERA Act and
A27	is mandated to conduct prudence check and	tariff is being determined as per the AERA
	it is vital to scrutinize each and every claim	Guidelines on MYTP for the airport operators.
15	made by AAI.	
6.26		
	In this context, it is noteworthy that the	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	Appellate Tribunal for Electricity in its judgment	
	dated 29.08.2006 in the matter of KPTCL Vs.	
128	KERC &Ors. reported as 2007 APTEL 22310 has	
A 20	clearly held that utilities are free to decide their	
	plans of investment for improvement of system or expansion to meet the demand including	
11	upgradation and maintenance for a better and	
	quality supply. It is the commercial decision of	
	the utility and its source to raise funds which	
	falls within the domain of the utility. It is at a	
	later stage that the Commission/Regulator shall	
	undertake a prudent check and if deem fit allow	
Į.	the claim. In appropriate cases, the Regulator	
	may disallow such cases of utility and it is for	
	the utility to bear the brunt of such investment	
	and it cannot pass it on to consumers.	
6.27)	Levy of User Development Fee ("UDF")	
0.27	Authority has proposed to levy UDF on the	Statement of fact.
		<u></u>

0	basis of AAI's Annual Tariff Proposal ("ATP").	
1	It is noteworthy that UDF is being introduce	
12 09	d on the embarking passengers w.e.f 01.01.2	, and the second
18/2	013 in the following manner:	
4	(a) Per Domestic Departing Passenger- Rs. 40	
M. M	0.00	1 A 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2 B 2
1 A, )		
0 %	(b) Per International Departing Passenger-Rs. 1000.00	
C 20)		The rule 90 of the Aircraft Dules 1027 normit
6.28)	Authority has introduced absolutely new	The rule 89 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 permit
	stream of revenue in favour of AAI, which is	the licensee to levy and collect at a major
0/80	not envisaged under the Airport Authority of	airport the User Development Fee at such rate
8/2	India Act, 1994 ("AAI Act") or AERA Act.	as may be determined under clause (b) of sub- section (1) of section 13 of the Airports
a. M	Of V	Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act,
()		2008.
6.29)	It is a settled position of law that any levy	The User Development Fee is part of Airport
0.23)	or compulsory exaction which is in the natur	Tariff structure charged by the airport
	e of tax/cess cannot be levied without a stat	operators and levied as determined by the
		AERA, under AERA Act & Aircraft Rules, 1937 as
	utory foundation/charging section, as laid do	indicated in the para 6.28 above.
hali	wn in a catena of judgements by the Hon'bl	maleuteu iii the para oleo above.
19 21	e Supreme Court. It is well settled principle	
1.1	of law that no tax, fee or any compulsory c	
.0	harge can be imposed by any bye-law, rule	
24.	or regulation unless the statute under which	
13.	the subordinate legislation is made specificall	
	y authorises the imposition. There is no roo	
	m for intendment.	
6.30)	In view of the foregoing, it is submitted	
	that:-	
	(a) AERA Act nowhere provides for provision	
Val	of determination or levy of UDF on	the licensee to levy and collect at a major
1,10	passengers.	airport the User Development Fee at such rate
18	(b) Authority in the present CP No. 17/ 2012	as may be determined under clause (b) of sub-
1,1	-13 has not deliberated upon the rationale	section (1) of section 13 of the Airports
1/1	for levying UDF. It is submitted that	Economic Regulatory.
D/	Authority is bound under Section 13(4)(c) of	The appropriate wiff and a second for the second se
10	the AERA Act to fully document and explain	The annual tariff proposal for Kolkata Airport,
	its decision.	including UDF, is based on the Aggregate
2.0	(c) Further, there is also no evidence that	Revenue Requirement (ARR) worked out as
	Authority has undertaken the exercise of	per the AERA Guidelines on MYTP for the
	determining the amount of UDF as there is	airport operators.
	no basis for levy Rs. 400 and Rs. 1000	* *
	towards UDF on embarking domestic and	a a
9	international passengers respectively.	
6.31)	It is also noteworthy that UDF is recovered from	AAI submitted its MYT Proposal in accordance
	each traveling passenger through the air ticket as a	with the AERA Guidelines and ARR worked out
	얼마 그 아내가 어느 없는 그 그 사람들이 아니는 그 아니는 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그	The state of the s

	8/33 Pg-12	component of the price of such air ticket and the same is payable by the airlines to the Airport Operator. It is reiterated that any increase on fees payable directly by passengers ultimately affects the interests of airlines. It is submitted that any passenger is concerned with the total cost of his travelling and not with the specific break-up of charges. Such enhancement in the cost of the air ticket not only works as a deterrent for the prospective traveler but also reduces the ability of the airlines to recover its costs and thus affecting the business interests <i>inter alia</i> of airlines and aviation industry.	available revenue stream, including UDF. In case the UDF is not levied, the entire amount of ARR to be recovered by way of airlines related charges in addition to fuel throughput charges.
	6.32)	Fuel Throughput Charges ("FTC")	Statement of fact.
		The Authority had vide Order No. 07/2010-	Statement of fact.
	/	11 dated 04.11.2010, in the matter of suom	
	<b>Y</b>	oto revision of FTC by the Airport	
	6134	Operators had approved the FTC at NSCB	
	0 13	International Airport, Kolkata (from Rs.1,158.7	
	02/2	8 to Rs.1,216.72 @ 5% increase as per contr	
	a9	actual terms) with effect from 01.04.2010, on	
-	C 22\	an ad hoc basis.	
	6.33)	In relation to the 5% increase in FTC by the	The fuel throughput charges at Kolkata Airport
	137	Authority, it is submitted that there is no	are based on the outcome of open bidding
1	Cl Ma	cost basis analysis for allowing 5% increase in FTC.	process as per the rate quoted by the oil companies.
-	6.34)	It is submitted that the Authority ought to	companies.
		examine:-	As already stated in nors 622 the 6 th
	_	(a) The impact of FTC enhancement since the	As already stated in para 6.33, the fuel throughput charges at Kolkata Airport are
	W	cost of the fuel constitutes around 40% of	based on the outcome of open bidding process
		operating cost of an airline.	as per the rate quoted by the oil companies.
	126	(b) The impact of failure of the AAI to	, and on companies.
	17	provide any justification for the revision in	In case the 5% increase in fuel throughput
1		FTC. Since at the Airports the Fuel suppliers	charges is not effected the revenue shortfall
	2)	are	on this account will have an impact on the tariff
	1	already paying and loading exorbitant land	of other revenue components (aeronautical
	'	rentals for locating fuel facility on airlines. In	service)
1		addition to such land rentals, the AAI are all	
		owed to charge FTC with no cost basis.	
		(c) AAI has only provided the land and	
		access to the Oil Companies. The cost of	w ' y v
	i i	land is recovered separately through the	
	1	rentals. Therefore, it is the value of	
	1	concessions which would have to be	
		considered while fixing the FTC.	
Ļ		(d) FTC is an impost not on the Oil	

		Companies but on the airlines. Thus, in the	
		form of FTC the airlines face a cost impost	
		as the airlines cannot avoid purchasing fuel	
		at locations with FTC, which is being charged	
		by the AAI over and above the normal lease	
		rental	
	6.35)	It is further submitted that considering that	AERA will determine the tariff in accordance
		Authority's Order No.07/2010-11 dated 04.11.	with provision of AERA Act and AERA Guidelines
		2010 is pending adjudication before the	on MYTP for the airport operators.
	1.1	Atmosphere E	
	0137	Appellate Tribunal ("AERAAT") in Appeal No.	
	1 ,72	5/2012 (MIAL Vs. AERA & Others), it would	
	101.1	be better if any decision regarding FTC	
	(1)	should be taken pursuant to the outcome of	
		the said Appeal.	
	6.36)	Re. Non-Aeronautical Revenue	
	5.50)	AAI has submitted revenue generated	Based on the past trend and considering the
		through Non-Aeronautical Services or services	increase in commercial area following the
		other than aeronautical services by applying	commissioning of new integrated passenger
and the same		the growth rate to historical revenues and	terminal, adequate increase in non-aeronautical
1	-	establishing the relationship with available	revenue has been projected in the MYTP.
		commercial area. In the CP No. 17/2012-13,	revenue has been projected in the WITT.
0/18	7	Authority has noted that the past growth of	
10	1		
1 0	1	non-aeronautical revenue may not serve	
21/15		either as a benchmark or guide in making the forecast. This is because the new	
The same			
.0		terminal at NSCB International Airport,	
		Kolkata is about more than 4 times the	
	c 07)	existing terminal.	
	6.37)	The Authority has proposed that for the first	Statement of fact.
		control period it may consider the forecast	and the Bar (1985) and the collection of the col
109		of non-aeronautical revenue provided by AAI	
0/3/	,	for determination of tariffs and true up the	* ,
11	7	actual receipts from non aeronautical	
(V)		revenuewhile determining tariffs for the next	
		control period.	
	6.38)	It is submitted that in the present	The non-aeronautical revenue, including cargo
- 8 - 3		consultation process, AAI has projected	at Kolkata airport contributes to around 48 % of
		non-aeronautical revenue at merely 25% of	the total revenue (FY 2011-12) of the airport.
		total revenue during control period, whereas	Further, AAI projected the non-aeronautical
140	7	a quick glance at airports like Changi Airport	revenue after taking into consideration various
1		Singapore; Hong Kong International Airport,	aspects including market potential at NSCBIA,
12-13		etc. reveals that said airports are earning	which AAI feels more appropriate rather than
69		approximately 60% of their total revenues	comparing with the Airports like Changi.
		arising out of services other than	However, AAI will make efforts to maximise the
L			revenue earning from Non-Aeronautical

		non-aeronautical services.	activities.
	6.39)	It is submitted that Authority should	Suggestion noted. AERA will determine the
		reasonably estimate or appoint a Consultant	tariff as per provision of the AERA Act after
11.		to determine revenue from new premises as	taking into various aspects.
7/9/		itmay not be appropriate to burden the	
1		airlines and passengers with higher tariff in	
19-17		this control period and provide relief for	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
10		the same in subsequent period.	
2 8 <sup>100</sup> 11	6.40)	Depreciation	
M		It has been stated that AAI is following the	Statement of fact.
The		straight line method for depreciation and the	
		depreciation rate applied to various assets i	
144		s as per AAI's approved accounting policy	
		considering the useful life of the assets. The	
	<b>1</b>	salient aspects of AAI's depreciation policy	*
1091	3	areas under:	
V)		(a) Method of Depreciation –	, ,
•		Straight Line Method.	9
*,		(b) Additions to Fixed Assets:-Depreciation to	
		be provided for full year irrespective of month of installation/completion.	
7 E 1		(c) No depreciation to be provided in the	
2 0		year the asset is disposed off/retired from	
HO C		active use.	
		(d) Residual value for each asset to be taken	
		as Re. 1 balance to be provided by way of	
		depreciation as per prescribed rates.	
	6.41)	In this regard it is observed that the AAI's	Statement of fact.
11.3	_	accounts are maintained as per the	State-ment of fact.
14		provisions of the Section 28 (1) of the AAI	
100		Act.	
40	6.42)	As per Clause 5.3.3 of the AERA	
		Guidelines, the minimum residual value of	AAI is charging depreciation as per the policy
	I	the asset shall be considered as 10% and	approved by AAI Board. The depreciation policy
1	-	depreciation shall be allowed up to	of AAI has been formulated after considering
1-149	္ခ	maximum of 90% of the original cost of the	the factors such as minimum useful service life
		asset on straight line method.	of various assets based on technical
101-11			assessment, obsolescence rate etc.The
Pd			depreciation policy adopted by AAI is also
			accepted by C&AG.
	6.43)	Authority has noted that AAI's Depreciation	As per para 6.42
		Policy is not in accordance with its	1.0 po. para 0.12
1. 145 d	_	Order No. 13/2010-11 dated 10.01.2011	
1		("Airport Order") and AERA Guidelines.	A
01.14		However, Authority has ignored its own AERA	
(A), 11 -		,	

	Guidelines and proposed to follow AAI's Depreciation Policy and the depreciation calculated in accordance thereof for the purpose of determination of tariffs for aeronautical services at NSCB International Airport since	
148	(a) AAI is a statutory body established under the AAI Act. The Board of AAI has approved the Depreciation policy	Statement of fact.
P-IN IS	that has been adopted by AAI.  (b) AAI's format of accounts have been formulated in consultation with the C&AG, who also conduct audit of the	Statement of fact.
*	books of accounts of AAI as mandated under the AAI Act. (c) The C&AG has not commented adversely on the depreciation	Statement of fact.
	methodology adopted by AAI. Further, accounts of the AAI, certified by the C&AG, together with the audit report are laid before the Parliament.	
6.44)	Authority should determine the depreciation as per Airport Order and Airport Guidelines for the purpose of computing ARR as it is settled position of law that the statutory authority is bound by its own Regulations/Guidelines.	AERA will determine the tariff as per provision of AERA Act after taking into consideration of various aspects concerning tariff determination.
6.45)	It is noteworthy that by employing AAI's proposed rate of depreciation (10-12%) on its assets translates into accounting life of assets to only 8-10 years. It is submitted	The minimum useful service life of various assets is reviewed fromtime to time for the purpose of scrappage and replacement considering thetechnical factors prevailing at the airports and also due to fast changes in
Elui	that assets of an airport have long useful life and usually last for 30 years. Hence, the Authority should spread out the useful life of the assets over a period of 30 years, which would reduce the target revenues by approximately Rs.208.05 crores in FY 2012-13 and over a period of 5 years the target revenues would be reduced by Rs.620.27	technology and the obsolescence factor aviation sector etc. Accordingly, the depreciation rates for various asset were reviewed and revised depreciation rates were made effective from FY 2006-07. This has been accepted by C&AG.
	crores. It is noteworthy that though CP No. 17/2012-13 mentions that AAI has proposed a depreciation rate as 10-12% but a simple division of depreciation by RAB gives us a higher number. It may be noted that AAI at NSCB International Airport, Kolkata mentions	Further, the depreciation rates adopted by Beijing Capital Intl. airport are comparable (except runway) to the rates adopted by AAI. However, it is pertinent to note that assets value is subjected to annual review by the Beijing airport "The assets' residual values and

depreciation of Runways over a period of 7 years only, whereas FIA understands that Changi Airport, Singapore is depreciating it over 30 years and Beijing Capital International Airport over 40 years. Following table demonstrates the impact of depreciation due to application of useful life of assets at NSCB International Airport, Kolkata.

useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount" (Beijing Airport Annual report 2011 – Notes to financial statement 2(e)

1	14	1	A COMPANY
15	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	A	1
and the same	W	1	\
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	Computation of impact considering useful life of asset as 30 years						
0	Rs in crores	T	T .		Jou.s	1	T
~			Tariff	year		!	
		1	2	3	4	5	Total
	Particulars	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	1.0.0
	Opening RAB	246.47	400.24	2764.88	2792.97	2780.19	
	Additions-WIP	163.62	2413.14	114.50	76.50	170.00	+
	Depreciation@3%	9.85	48.50	86.41	89.28	92.98	327.02
	Closing RAB	400.24	2764.88	2792.97	2780.19	2857.21	027.02
	Average RAB	323.36	1582.56	2778.92	2786.58	2818.70	1
Α	Reduction in depreciation	51.49	233.27	204.12	207.08	221.26	917.22
В	Increase in Average RAB	25.75	168.13	386.82	592.42	806.59	
С	Impact of increase RAB on return on equity @ 15%(B X 15%)	3.86	25.22	58.02	88.86	120.99	296.95
D	Net impact of change in useful life to 30 years(a-c)	47.63	208.05	146.09	118.22	100.27	620.27
	Assumptions:				1		
1	Method of depreciation-S	raight Line	Method		<del>-</del>		
2	Useful life of the asset is considered as 30 years. Hence, Depreciation considering 10% residual value would be 3%						
3	Additions during the year	are depreci	ated @ 50%	assuming	in mid of fine	ancial was	
4	All figures are in INR crore	25	6 007	dosuming i	iii iiiu oi iiii	anciai year	1

E) 48

6.46)

In this regard it is submitted that depreciation-methodology (of using accounting life of assets) being presently considered by Authority is erroneous and ignores the reality that such approach will have an unjust inflationary impact on passengers/airlines by front loading of tariff. Presently, the Authority is considering only the accounting life of

The depreciation policy adopted by AAI, which was considered in finalization of the MYTP, had considered all the relevant factors, including useful life of Assets & obsolescence rate and depreciation rates have been fixed accordingly, which is also accepted and audited by C & AG.

	assets (8-10 years) instead of considering	
	the useful life of assets (at least 30	
	years). Such reduced accounting life of as	
	sets compared to useful life would result	
	in artificial increase in the depreciation	
	charge and would have an adverse impac	
	t of increasing the tariff in the initial yea	
	r.	
6.47)	Weighted Average Cost of Capital ("WA	
	CC") - Fair Rate of Return ("FRoR")	
	AAI had engaged KPMG to determine	a a
	the FRoR for its airport operation	
	business. KPMG has worked with the	,
	assumption that the gearing ratio and	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1100	cost of debt for the airport operation	e e
	business at each airportof AAI is the	,
	same as that for AAI as a whole. In this	
1.4		
11/1	regard, following is noteworthy:-	
1	(a) Gearing Ratio: The Gearing is the lev	
	el of an entity's debt compared with	Statement of fact.
	its equity component and is	
	calculated as Gearing = Debt / (Debt	
	+Equity). AAI has assumed that future	A STATE OF THE STA
	capital funding requirement will be	
*	met in similar Debt-Equity proportion	
	for AAI as a whole at the current le	
- 1	vels and projected the expected geari	
	ng to be 8.84%.	
	(b) cost of Equity: Using the Capital Asse	
	t Price Model (CAPM), KPMG in its r	7
	eport determined cost of equity as	3
	15.64%.	
	(c) Cost of Debt: Weighted average	
0 00	cost of existing debt of AAI is 8.03%	
	and KPMG in its report has	
-	assumed that AAI will be able to rais	
	e the incremental debt	
* *	requirement in the first control period	
	on similar terms.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6.48)	On applying the above mentioned values	
	of various parameters to the FRoR	
	methodology prescribed by AERA, KPMG	Statement of fact.
7	determined the FRoR for AAI's airports o	
1.		L

	perations business as 14.96% or 15% p.a.	
6.49)	Authority noted that vide its letter AV. 2	
	4032/037/2011-AD dated 12.03.2012, the	
	MoCA forwarded report of SBI Capital	Statement of fact as per consultation paper
	Market Ltd (i.e. SBI Caps) in the matter	
ě	of "Fair Rate of Return of Equity for	
	Indian Airport Sector". On comparing	
	reports and from analysis, the Authority	
4 . 4	observed following issues in computation	
	of FROR by KPMG:	
	(a) For determining Asset Beta to	
	compute Cost of Equity, the comparator	
	set is only restricted to	
	developing/emerging countries, however,	
	such an approach is not appropriate and	
/	a wider set of airports may provide a	
	more meaningful basis for estimation of	
	Asset beta as advised by NIPFP, in the	
	matter of determination of aeronautical	
	charges at NSCB International Airport.	
	(b) Based on its own framework, the	
	Authority has also noted that average As	
	set Beta for NSCB International Airport	
	can be taken at 0.61 as against 0.92	
	consiered by KPMG.	
	(c) The Authority notes that the higher	
	WACC value is also on account of	
	preponderance of equity in the capital	
	structure of AAI. However, if the actual	
	debt-equity ratio of NSCB International	
	Airport, Kolkata (i.e. average outstanding	
	debt of Rs.232 crores and average equity	
7	of Rs.2,009 crores giving actual D/E Ratio	
	of 11.56%) specifically is taken into	
	account the calculation yields a WACC of	
	14.03% or say 14%.	현실 경기 내가 살아 있다면서 사람이 없는데 되었다.
5.50)	Evidently, though the Authority has noted	
	that WACC/FROR of around 14% is	물병들이 그렇게 되었다면 하다면 걸어 다른 사람이 없다면 다른 사람이 되었다.
	proper in view of its approach and	
.	calculations, but it has still allowed FRoR	
	of 15%.The Authority is of the view that	
a	in the first control period, some	
0	allowance should be given for the	
-	uncertainties in estimation of different	

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parameters, hence, WACC of 15%, as proposed by AAI, is reasonable for this control period and provides for sufficiently generous allowance for such uncertainty in estimation. FIA is opposed to any such relaxation to AAI and the Authority must examine it in detail before allowing such high WACC/FroR when in other cases, for e.g. IGI Airport, (being operated by DIAL), the WACC/FroR determined is 10.33 % per annum

AERS is requested to consider FRoR of 15% as per MYTP proposal.

6.51)

It is noteworthy that the Authority is also mindful of the fact that current Debt Equity ratio of the NSCBI Airport, Kolkata is not efficient and in order to moderate aeronautical charges, effort needs to be made to move towards efficient debt-equity ratio with higher proportion of debt. However, Authority is of the view that moving towards the efficient debt equity structure would take time and hence, this issue would be revisited at the time of tariff determination for the next control period and make appropriate decisions. It is submitted that in case airport is not efficiently managing their Debt Equity ratio to reduce cost of capital, airlines and passengers should not be penalized for the same.

Higher proportion of debt in the capital structure may be appropriate in case of new companies formed for the purpose of undertaking the new projects. This is not the case in case of AAI, which is already in existence and managing the airports and generating the internal resources from the airport operations. As such AAI opted to finance the project mainly from internal resources. Further, in case of higher debt also, there would be outflow on account of servicing the debt. Further, it is also mention that AAI Act also permits creation of Reserve fund for the purpose of up-gradation of existing infrastructure and creation of new facilities Accordingly, the accumulated reserve fund has been utilized by AAI for financing of the project.

6.52)

Further, it is to be noted that the Authority had indicated in its Order No. 03/2012-13 dated 20.04.2012 ("MYTP Tariff Order of DIAL") that the proportion of debt of around 60% in the capital structure could be regarded as an efficient means of finance. FIA notes that WACC/FROR for IGI Airport, Delhi was determined as 10.33% per annum, hence, 50% higher WACC in case of NSCBI Airport, Kolkata is not justifiable. Return on RAB, computed from WACC,

The proportion of debt of around 60% in the capital structure may be appropriate in case of new company formed for the purpose establishment of new Airport projects and not the existing airport operator like AAI. The MYTP proposal of AAI is as per the Guidelines of AERA.

Λ.

	11	has significant weightage in computin ARR	
	4	of the Airport. Reducing WACC from 15	
		% to 10.33% in NSCBI Airport, Kolkata	
		will reduce ARR by 14%. It is pertinent	AL .
		to note that higher RAB with higher	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
		WACC has a significant compounding	
		impact on the aeronautical tariff.	
	6.53)	It is pertinent to note that that for	
	,	calculating WACC/FROR, though the	WACC /FRoR worked out by M/s KPMG for AAI is
		Authority has arrived at the figure of	14.96 % or 15% . AAI Formulated the MYTP
		14% but has allowed 15%. Thus,	proposal is as per AERA Guidelines and reasonable
*		Authority has accepted KPMG's proposal	
		in spite of finding loopholes in Asset	
11	1	Beta as determined by KPMG. It is	
0/83		submitted that for the difference of 1%	
1/2		in WACC/FROR on this scale would	*
10		-	*
62,		unnecessarily increase the Aeronautical	
' U	10	Tariff. In view of the foregoing, it is	
	10	submitted that considering assumptions	
		taken by KPMG w.r.t Asset Beta and	
		gearing ratio are not appropriate,	
	.81	Authority should re-compute the WACC	
		after appropriate adjustments.	
	6.54)	Operation and Maintenance Expenditure	Statement of fact as per CP
	-	Authority has considered all the	
		expenses forecasted by AAI subject to	
		following adjustments in other	
		miscellaneous expenditure:	
1	G.	(a) The expenditure –	
1	$C_{i}$	to the extent it relates to	
6	/	the payment of interest on	
fa\5	1.9	long term debt –	
CA /	BILL	factored in the	
	V 1	expenditures has been`	ar and a second
140		deducted there from.	
::-	0	(b) In case of electricity	
		and water charges -	
		no increase in number of	
8 4		units has been allowed	*
	6.55)	Authority is of the view that for	
		determining tariff only efficient operating	Statement of fact
		and maintenance costs should be	,
1.151	/	considered. In this regard, Authority has	
A L		noted that the C&AG is the auditor of all	
/a1 V	\ 1	the accounts of AAI –	
10		accounts of Ani	

. ()			
	1	including the expenditures incurred and	
		Audit Report of the C&AG is not only on	
		the mathematical accuracy of accounts	
		or their incurrence in accordance with	
		the set procedure, but also on the	
· ·	1	propriety of such expenditure.	
6/3	Pa .	Considering this, Authority has proposed	
106	V	to accept the historical figures as	
- M.		provided by AAI, for the present tariff	
		period.	
	6.56)	It is submitted that operating	
		expenditure is one of the major	AAI has prepared the MYTP, including expenditure
1		component for determining ARR. Hence,	projection for the control period in accordance with
60 18	_	the Authority should evaluate these	the Guidelines issued by the AERA for the airport
0113	8	expenses in detail rather than only	operators. The MYTP submitted by AAI has been
10/1	0	relying on projections provided by AAI.	reviewed by AERA accordingly.
. 11		relying on projections provided by viiii	
	6.57)	Further, it is submitted that Authority	
		should establish some optimal operating	
	y2	benchmarks be laid down for the airports	
	r <u>e</u>	to keep operations efficient e.g.	Suggestion noted
19		opex per passenger or per landing. The	
6/8/		same can be based on some model	
1		efficient airports. In absence of such a	
10/1		benchmark, there is no check and	
1, 1		balance mechanism to ensure that	
		passengers are not bearing extra cost on	
		account of non-efficient operations.	
	6.58)	It is noteworthy that in respect of the	The increase in salary and wages projected by 7% is
,	** } ;	future projections, the Authority is	on account of annual increment in basic salary,
k+ = = -		cognizant of the fact that expenditure	increase in perks, including HRA, Provident Fund
	/	partly includes inflation e.g. in case of	contribution etc., which are directly related to basic
6/60		Salary and Wages (Dearness Allowance).	salary. Whereas, WPI of 6% considered in the
19	_	It is submitted that considering, WPI of	proposal caters to the increase in costs due to
1000	8	6% has been separately considered, all	inflationary factors.
•••		the expenditure should be delinked from	
		inflation and accordingly ARR needs to	
1		be adjusted.	
	6.59)	Quality of Service	AAI agrees with the views of AERA
		Authority has considered the issue of	
5	/	specifying a transition period for	
		implementation of the scheme of quality	
116	11	of service measurement and determinatio	
M	, (	n of any rebates as relevant for NSCB	
Q171		International Airport, Kolkata. In this	
1.7		C	

0			
	200	regard, Authority has proposed a period	
		of one year from the date of tariff	
		determination for AAI to appropriately	
		align their process/ procedures and	8
		make any other required interventions.	
	6.60)	Further, the Authority has proposed that	AAI supports the views of AERA
		in the current determination of	The supported the views of MERIA
		aeronautical tariff(s) for NSCB	
	3	International Airport, Kolkata, a period of	
		about two years of the first control	
		period have already elapsed and given	
١		the transition period of one year, for	
1	V	implementation of the above scheme	6 0 0 0 0 x
d.			
1	10/1	would be applicable only from the fourth	
/	M	tariff year of the Control period i.e.,	, I
(1)		2014-15. Accordingly, the Authority has	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
4	1	noted that it will be possible	x **
		to calculate the rebate for the year 2014	
		-15 only in the tariff year t+2, viz., in	
	si '	2016-17, which is the first tariff year of	
		the next control period.	
	6.61)	In this regard, it is submitted that	Considering the fact that one & half year of current
	a .	Authority has noted that the New	control period has already elapsed. A transition
		Integrated Terminal Building will be	period of one year for implementation of quality
. 1		completed and commissioned in	service measurement and determination of ar
3		forthcoming months.	rebate is reasonable for making appropriate
		Thus, it is submitted that for such	systemic and procedural changes in line with Service
	2	transition, Authority should not grant one	quality requirement of AERA guidelines. AAI will pu
7		year to AAI and limit it to not more	in place systems/procedures at the earliest with
		than 2 months as benefit of any rebates	the time frame fixed the AERA
		arising out of implementation of the	
	$M \mid$		
		measurement to the consumers of NSCB	
	1		
		International Airport, Kolkata would not	
	1	be available for almost a year. It is	
		submitted that denial of such benefit for	
		one year would not be in the interest of	
F		airlines.	
	6.62)	Landing Fee	The landing charges vary for different categories of
	*	It is submitted that Authority has	aircraft depending on the weight of the aircraft
		proposed minimum Landing Fee of Rs. 50	Accordingly, no maximum rate of landing charge
	11.	00/-per landing. It is submitted that	has been fixed.
1	17	though the Minimum rate has been	
O		prescribed, but for proper regulation,	

	prescribed by the Authority.	
6.63)	prescribed by the Authority.  'Doctrine of Infrastructural Essential Facilities'  It is submitted that under the competition law, an enterprise is under an obligation to extend its essential infrastructural facility at a reasonable cost. AAI's control over NSCB International Airport, Kolkata renders it a monopolist having control over 'essential infrastructural facility' of the airport in the city of Kolkata and the eastern	Airport sector is highly capital intensive and viability of airport depends on large number of factors, including local economic conditions and the aircraft and passenger traffic etc., In Indian context, there is no example of two airports operating commercially in the same city. However, airports do compete with each other in the country. It is not correct to infer that Kolkata airport is operating in a monopolistic manner in the country. Private Airports at Delhi, Mumbai,
8	region of the country. The requirement of access to essential facility was first articulated by the Supreme Court of United States of America in United States vs. Terminal Railroad Assn, reported as 224 U.S. 383 (1912). Under the principles of access to essential facility, the following four factors must be proven:-	Hyderabad and Bangalore are competing with Kolkata in addition to AAI airport at Chennai for aircraft and passenger traffic.
	Control of the essential facility by a monopolist;  (b)  A competitor's inability practically or reasonably to duplicate the essential facility;	
	<ul><li>(c) The denial of the use of the essential facility to a competitor; and</li><li>(d) The feasibility of providing the essential facility to competitors.</li></ul>	
6.64)	Further, it is submitted that to seek access to essential facility, the asset in question also must not be available from other sources or capable of duplication by the firm seeking access. Reliance is placed on the case of Apartment Source of Philadelphia vs. Philadelphia Newspap	No such investment has been considered in the MYTP proposal for NSCBI Airport.

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	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	ers, reported as 1999 WL 191649.	
-	6.65)	In view of the foregoing judicial	There are very few international instances, where
8	0.03)		two airports operate commercially in the same city.
a (3)		precedents, it is submitted that AAI	Considering the Indian and International airports
		assumes the position of a monopolist	scenario, It would totally incorrect to infer that
		since it exercises control over NSCB	Kolkata airport is operating in monopolistic manner.
		International Airport, Kolkata which is a	As already indicated above, Kolkata airport is
	-	crucial infrastructural facility for a city	competing with Private international airports in the
7/1/		like Kolkata and eastern region of	country.
	1	country due to its political and economic	ound,
MY	1	significance at both national and	
40 1		international levels. Airport is an essential	
		facility, and thus, per this doctrine, the	
		monopolist should not be allowed to	
		charge an exorbitant price for accessing	x**
ļ		his facility.	
	6.66)	It is submitted that such enormous hike	The tariff increase proposed for aeronautical
		in tariff by a monopolist AAI may be	services is worked out on the basis of Aggregate
		viewed as 'abuse of its dominance' and	Revenue Requirement (ARR) computed for the
7/18	_	accordingly liable under Section 4 of the	control period following the AERA Guidelines.
7 00	0	Competition Act, 2002 ("Competition Act"	
1 3	4	Further, the Competition Act	
	2	promulgates the "economic development	
		of the country" amongst other things,	
		protect the interests of the consumers.	
	6.67)	In view of the foregoing, it is submitted	As per para 6.66.
		that the Authority is mandated to	
1/61/	.	prevent any opportunity which lead to	
	-1	the abuse of monopolistic power by the	
0	1 .	airports and that stand in the way of eff	
		ective economic regulation.	
	6.68)	Increase in Aeronautical Tariff should be	
	*	kept in check	Statement of fact
		Following revision in the	
		tariff(s)(excluding taxes/any levies)	
		proposed by AAI is	
1		pending consideration by the Authority	
	10	and are subject matter of discussion in	
M	12	CP No. 17/2012-13:	* ,
	1/16	(a) Increase of 118% in International land	
1	* / /	ing charges and 48% in Domestic landing	
K V	E 128	charges w.e.f 01.11.2012.	
		(b) Minimum Landing Fee of Rs. 5,000/-	
		per landing for all flights except training	,
		flights operated by Flying Clubs.	
*	2 22	(c) Uniform increase of 83% in parking a	

	nd housing charges.	
	(d) PSF (Security) proposed to be	
	continued at the existing rates i.e. Rs.	
-	130/-per departing pax.	*
	(e) Passenger Service Fees (PSF): No	
	increase is proposed in current PSF	
	(Facilitation) rate i.e. Rs. 77/- per	
	embarking passenger. From 01.01.2013 th	
	is PSF (Facilitation) is proposed to be me	
	rged with proposed UDF levy.	
	(f) Introduction of User Development	
S-1	Fees w.e.f 01.01.2013 -	
	(i) Per Domestic Departing Passenger- Rs.	
	400 and	
. *	(ii) Per International Departing Passenger-	b
	Rs.1000.00	
11	(g) As per the understanding with the Oil	¥
1	Companies the FTC have been proposed	
M	by AAI to be increased by 5% per	
	annum. For FY 2012-13, revision in rates	
10	is proposed to be effective from 01.11.20	
at	12 from existing Rate Rs. 1216.72 per	
4	Kilolitre to proposed rate Rs 1277.56 per	
U	Kilolitre.	
yk.	(h) For the ensuing tariff years 2013-14	
	onwards in the current control period,	
	annual escalation @ 6 % p.a. w.e.f. 1	
	April of each tariff year proposed on	
	Landing, Housing, Parking and UDF.	
	In the case of FTC in FY 2011-12 and	
1	thereafter an annual increase of 8% w.e.f	
	01.04.2013, 01.04.2014 and 01.04.2015.	
6.69		Substantial capital investments have been made at
0.03	is respectfully submitted that airlines and	NSCBI, Kolkata for providing better facilities to
	consequently passengers will have to	passenger and airlines. The additional capacity
	bear the burden of increase in	created will be able to meet traffic growth upto
	Aeronautica Tariff as proposed in the	2021 (International Terminal) and 2019 (Domestic
/3/	CP No. 17/2012-13.	Terminal) and ARR for the control period has been
7"	CP NO. 17/2012-13.	computed as per the AERA Guidelines, the increase
		in tariff proposed at Kolkata airport is unavoidable.
6.70	The Authority is aware that airlines have	AAI is also affected by the slowdown of Indian &
	been going through difficult times.	world economy.
V _	Increase in various components of Aeron	,
	autical Tariff as proposed by the Authorit	AERA has laid down the detailed Guidelines for filing
N	addition as proposed by the Addition	of MYTP by the airports and AAI has prepared MYTP

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	y will erode airlines capabilities to increase fares to sustain its operational capabilities. It is pertinent to note that the Authority must also take into account the difficultie s being faced by the airlines and passeng ers before granting levies to the airport operators. As Airlines have suffered losses significantly in the last two years due to high ATF and recent depreciation of the rupee, there is a need for Airlines to raise fares to recoup the past losses, rather than fund the Airport development	for Chennai as per the Guidelines and AERA after considering the all relevant aspects relating to Chennai MYTP has issued the CP no. 16/2012-13. As indicated above, tariff increase proposed at Kolkata airport is unavoidable.
.	program which is the responsibility of	
6.71)	the Airport operator.  It is submitted that since the	
A Justin	determination of aeronautical tariff of various major airports is evolving, it would be relevant if a standard benchmarking with respect to optimal capex per square meter and opex per passenger/landing is established by the Authority. This would be useful for all the Stakeholders while examining the	AERA may set up the standards for benchmarking.
6.70)	various tariff proposals.	
6.72)	There is a need for guidance to the industry by the Regulator so that norms for operation are determined for the industry base on the technology, industry performance and in order to ensure optimum utilisation of assets with efficient and economic operation. Normative level can be determined by the Regulator on the basis of Benchmarking	AERA may set up the standards for benchmarking.
6.73)		Suggestion noted AEPA has processed the MAYT
	benchmarking approach is that to the extent that a utility is more efficient than the industry or is able to achieve higher rates of productivity changes, it will retain these benefits forever. Thus, the advantage of using a benchmark is that it creates an incentive for an enterprise to be more efficient.	Suggestion noted. AERA has processed the MYT Proposal of AAI for determination of tariff as per the Guidelines issued on the subject.

		Further, it is emphasised that	
		the Authority is bound by its AERA Guide	
		lines and various Orders.	
	6.74)	FIA reiterates its submission that there is	The MYTP proposal of AAI has been formulated as
		a critical relationship between passenger	per the Guidelines of AERA and after taking into
- 2		traffic and growth of the civil	consideration of all the relevant factors.
2		aviationsector. What would benefit both	
er (a X		the airport as well as the airlines is a	
		reasonable and transparent passenger	
	_	tariff, both direct and indirect -	
STILL		since then the airlines will be able to	
13	5	attract more passengers and the airports	
0)-13	70	would benefit both through higher	
- /		collection of aeronautical charges as also	
		enhanced non aeronautical revenue at	
		the airports. It is submitted that the	
		Authority must balance the interest of	
		airlines and the passengers which is of	
		paramount importance or the aviation in	
le l		dustry.	
	6.75)	In view of the above, it is respectfully	The MYT proposal of AAI for NSCBIA is as per the
		prayed that FIA is opposed to the	Guidelines of AERA and the tariff increase proposed
		increase in Aeronautical Tariff without	is reasonable considering the investment made at
17		conducting prudence check and appointin	Kolkata airport for providing better facilities to
	,	gits own independent auditor. The	Users. AAI proposed to recover only part of ARR
100 27	- 14	Authority must keep in mind the	computed as per AERA Guidelines in the current
1")-	^	interests/implications of/on the airlines	control period and balance in the next control
		before finalizing any decisions regarding	period .
		increase in Aeronautical Tariff and other	
		charges.	