BANGALORE CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
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BCIC
50 GOLDEN YEARS

July 10, 2026

Shri S G K Rahate
The Chairman,
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
AERA Building, Administrative Complex,
Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi -110 003.

Sub: Response to Consultation Paper issued by AERA for 4th Control Period

Ref: Consultation Paper No 01/2026-27 published by AERA on 12th June 2026

Respected Sir

This has reference to the Consultation Paper No. 01/2026-27 issued by the Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) in respect of the Fourth Control Period of Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB).

The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) represents leading businesses across technology, manufacturing, life sciences, aerospace, financial services and several other sectors that collectively contribute significantly to the economy of Bengaluru and Karnataka.

For our member companies, Kempegowda International Airport is far more than a transportation asset. It is a critical business enabler that connects Bengaluru with global markets, facilitates investment, enables international collaboration and strengthens the city's position as one of the world's leading destinations for innovation and enterprise.

Bengaluru today has emerged as India's technology and innovation capital, hosting one of the world's largest concentrations of Global Capability Centres, a thriving startup ecosystem, advanced manufacturing, aerospace and research institutions. Every year, thousands of global executives, investors, entrepreneurs, researchers and skilled professionals travel through Kempegowda International Airport. The quality, capacity and efficiency of the airport therefore directly influence how Bengaluru is perceived as a global business destination.

In this context, BCIC respectfully submits the following observations for the Authority's consideration.

1. Airport infrastructure is fundamental to Bengaluru's global competitiveness
The continued success of Bengaluru depends on its ability to offer infrastructure that matches the expectations of global businesses and international investors. As the city continues to attract investment and create high-value employment, airport infrastructure must expand ahead of demand to ensure that capacity does not become a constraint to growth.

The airport is an integral component of the city's economic ecosystem. Infrastructure investments at KIAB support business continuity, improve connectivity, strengthen investor confidence and reinforce Bengaluru's competitiveness relative to other global technology and innovation hubs.

We therefore encourage the Authority to evaluate the proposed capital investments with a long-term perspective, recognising their broader economic contribution beyond the aviation sector.

2. Terminal 2 has become a global showcase for Bengaluru and India

Terminal 2 has established itself as one of the most admired airport terminals in the country and has become a matter of pride for Bengaluru's business community.

For many international visitors, the airport is their first interaction with the city. Terminal 2 reflects the values that Bengaluru is known for—innovation, sustainability, design excellence and a commitment to delivering infrastructure of global standards. Its recognition through the prestigious Skytrax 5-Star Airport Terminal Rating has further reinforced Bengaluru's reputation as a city capable of delivering world-class infrastructure. Our member companies frequently host international customers, investors and partners, and the quality of the airport experience makes a meaningful contribution to the overall perception of Bengaluru as a preferred destination for global business.

As passenger traffic continues to grow and the Government of India advances its vision of developing Bengaluru as a major international aviation hub, it is important that Terminal 2 Phase 2 is developed with adequate long-term capacity to support the city's future aspirations.

3. Eastern Connectivity Tunnel will enhance accessibility and business efficiency

Efficient and predictable access to the airport is of considerable importance to the business community. The proposed Eastern Connectivity Tunnel will significantly improve airport accessibility for a large catchment of passengers travelling from East Bengaluru by reducing travel distance and travel time while easing congestion on existing road corridors.

The project will improve mobility for employees, business travellers, exporters, service providers and airport users while reducing travel costs, improving journey reliability and lowering vehicular emissions.

From the perspective of Bengaluru's business ecosystem, the tunnel is an important element of airport infrastructure that enhances passenger access and operational efficiency. We respectfully request the Authority to reconsider its proposed treatment of the project and permit its inclusion within the Regulated Asset Base, enabling timely implementation of infrastructure that delivers long-term benefits to passengers, businesses and the city.

BCIC appreciates the Authority's efforts to balance consumer interests with sustainable infrastructure development. We respectfully submit that investment in airport infrastructure should be viewed as investment in Bengaluru's future competitiveness and India's economic growth. We request the Authority to take these submissions into consideration while finalising the tariff determination for the Fourth Control Period.

Thanking you and with kind regards,

For Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce,

CA K Ravi
President - BCIC