



U.S. Trade and Development Agency

Linking U.S. businesses to global infrastructure opportunities

NEWS RELEASE

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USTDA SUPPORTS ENHANCED PASSENGER SCREENING AT INDIA'S AIRPORTS

NEW DELHI, India – In advance of the upcoming U.S.-India Strategic & Commercial Dialogue, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) to support a body scanner system pilot project at Delhi International Airport.

“This pilot project is a prime example of how the U.S. and India can leverage innovative private sector technologies to advance India’s aviation priorities,” stated USTDA Regional Director Henry Steingass, who signed the grant agreement with AAI Chairman R.K. Srivastava. “Strengthening aviation safety systems and practices will support further growth in India’s rapidly expanding aviation market and deepen economic ties between our countries.”

The project was proposed under the U.S.-India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP) and will be carried out by L-3 Security and Detection Systems, an ACP Member Company based in Woburn, Massachusetts. The project’s objective is to enable AAI and BCAS to pilot L-3’s Provision 2 Body Scanner at an operational airport checkpoint to demonstrate its ability to enhance passenger-screening capabilities.

India’s commercial aviation sector continues to experience significant passenger growth rates, estimated as high as 10.5 percent annually. The ability to efficiently and effectively screen for potential metallic and non-metallic threat objects is integral as India’s airports seek to accommodate increasing passenger traffic levels in a safe and secure manner. Through the USTDA-funded pilot project, L-3 will demonstrate how the Provision 2 Body Scanner can support this important objective. The project will also train airport security staff on how to use the advanced scanning equipment and adjust it for India’s operating environment.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.