

## FICCI to host civil aviation expo in Hyderabad

Our Bureau

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The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) will host an exhibition on civil aviation in Hyderabad in October.

The Deputy Director General, FICCI, Mr Rajan Kohli, told *Business Line* that the exhibition will be held in association with the Civil Aviation Ministry, which has offered them the Hyderabad's Begumpet airport free of cost for hosting the show.

### CII HOSTS BANGALORE SHOW

The biennial aero show held in Bangalore will now be hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in 2009. It outbid FICCI in hosting the aero show next year.

Mr Kohli said the Bangalore aero show was mostly a defence event and the airline sector was largely ignored during the event. "Hence, we approached the Civil Aviation Ministry with a proposal to host the event exclusively for the civil aviation industry to which they readily agreed," he said.

Mr Kohli said FICCI was not prepared to incur any losses by bidding lower than the lowest bidder for hosting the Bangalore aero show. He said the Hyderabad event called the "Indian Aviation," will be held once in two years.

### MAJOR PARTICIPANTS

Airbus Industrie, Boeing, Bombardier and Embraer apart from countries such as the US, the UK, Germany and Italy have confirmed their participation, which will be held from October 15 to 18.

### COSTS

Mr Kohli said the total event cost will be around Rs 18 crore, which will be recovered by collecting fees from participating countries and companies.

"We hope to break even from our operations," he said.

He added that in spite of a down turn in the airline industry, the organisers expect most of the companies to actively participate.