



Self-reliance is about our capabilities, our strength to stand on our own.

GOVT. SECTOR

“We must remain aware and committed to becoming self-reliant. Self-reliance is not just about exports, imports, the rupee, or the dollar; it is about our capabilities and our strength to stand on our own.

The Prime Minister highlighted this vision while speaking about the PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana, which aims to benefit 3 crore youth, with a strong focus on self-reliance, innovation, and empowerment as part of India’s roadmap to achieve the goal of a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi
Independence Day speech, on August 15, 2025

Wings India 2026: India Sets Course for Global Leadership in Aviation Innovation and Sustainability



The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), led by Shri Ram Mohan Naidu, hosted the curtain-raiser for Wings India 2026, Asia’s largest civil aviation exhibition, in collaboration with FICCI. The event launched the official brochure, promotional video, and mobile app, gathering policymakers, industry leaders, and global stakeholders to highlight India’s aviation roadmap.

Shri Naidu emphasized India’s rise as the third-largest

domestic aviation market and its projected position as the third-largest overall passenger market. Aligning with the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision, he called for modernization, adoption of emerging technologies, and stronger connectivity, stressing the role of urban air mobility and drones in shaping the sector.

Union MoS Civil Aviation, Mr. Murlidhar Mohol, credited the sector’s growth to national and state-level efforts, particularly UDAN, which has improved regional connectivity and affordable air access. Civil Aviation Secretary, Mr. Samir Kumar Sinha, placed sustainability at the center of aviation policy, highlighting India’s ambition to lead in Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production and describing Wings India 2026 as a vital platform for collaboration.

AAI Chairman, Mr. Vipin Kumar, detailed infrastructure expansion, airport upgrades, navigation improvements, and passenger facility modernization. Mr. Remi Maillard, Chairman, FICCI Civil Aviation Committee, and Ms. Jyoti Vij, MD, Airbus India, highlighted opportunities in manufacturing, MRO, and skill development, reinforcing partnerships.

With the theme “Indian Aviation: Paving the Future – from Design to Deployment, Manufacturing to Maintenance, Inclusivity to Innovation, and Safety to Sustainability,” the event underscores India’s push for green technologies, digital transformation, and indigenous manufacturing, positioning it as a global aviation hub.

From President FAST’s Desk



As the President of FAST, I am delighted to introduce our new publication, 'Aviation & Tourism Pulse.' In today's digital age, a print medium offers unique benefits, catering to those who appreciate in-depth content. This publication aims to bridge the gap between FAST and stakeholders in the aviation and tourism industries.

I commend the publication team for their efforts in bringing this initiative to life. To make 'Aviation & Tourism Pulse' a more effective communication platform, I invite esteemed readers to share their valuable suggestions.

Through this publication, we seek to foster meaningful interactions with industry professionals, policymakers, and enthusiasts. Your feedback will be instrumental in shaping future editions and ensuring the publication remains relevant and impactful.

Let's work together to make 'Aviation & Tourism Pulse' a beacon for sustainable aviation and tourism practices.



Lt. Gen. KM Seth,
PVSM, AVSM(Retd.)
former Governor of Tripura & Chhattisgarh and President FAST

Foundation for Aviation & Sustainable Tourism



SEMINAR "CURRENT DOMESTIC & GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND ROADMAP FOR INDIA'S ACCELERATED TOURISM GROWTH"

Date: 26th September, 2025 (Friday)

Venue: India International Centre

Time: 0915 Hrs. to 1400 Hrs

Followed by Lunch

For Registration and Invite,
pl contact: 9810025069



Aviation Updates



- **Tuticorin Airport Expansion:** Newly inaugurated terminal by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi now operational; capacity 20 lakh passengers annually; developed at ₹452 crore under ₹4,900 crore package for Thoothukudi and South Tamil Nadu.
- **Air Cargo Growth:** India's cargo handling capacity reached 8 million metric tons in FY 2024, growing over 10% annually with focus on perishables and streamlined customs.
- **Sustainable Water Management:** 69 airports equipped with STPs treating 17 million liters daily for reuse in landscaping, flushing, and other purposes.
- **Women in Aviation:** India among top nations for women pilot representation; target set for 25% women in all aviation roles by 2025.
- **Hindon Airport Connectivity:** Union Minister Shri Ram Mohan Naidu inaugurated 10 new IndiGo flights to Bengaluru, Chennai, Goa, Kolkata, Mumbai, Patna, Varanasi, plus new routes to Ahmedabad and Indore.
- **Workplace Safety for Women:** Ministry promotes SHE-Box Portal for speedy resolution of workplace sexual harassment complaints, strengthening PoSH Act implementation.

India Emerges As World's 5th Biggest Aviation Market In 2024.



India has emerged as the world's fifth-biggest aviation market, handling 211 million passengers, while Mumbai-Delhi was one of the busiest airport pairs in 2024. This was stated by the International Airport Transport Association (IATA), which has released the latest edition of the World Air Transport Statistics (WATS) for 2024.

According to IATA, India saw 211 million air passengers last year, a growth of 11.1 per cent compared to 2023, ahead of Japan, which handled 205 million passengers with an annual rise of 18.6 per cent. The US remains the world's biggest aviation market with 876 million passengers in 2024 on the strength of its domestic market, growing 5.2 per cent year-on-year. China was the second-biggest passenger market, with 741 million passengers, a growth of 18.7 per cent compared to 2023. While the UK was at the 3rd spot with 261 million passengers, Spain stood at the 4th position with 241 million. The figures include all international and domestic passengers departing or arriving in each country.

Among the top 10 airport pairs, Mumbai-Delhi was the 7th busiest, carrying 5.9 million passengers in 2024. Asia Pacific dominated the ranking for the world's busiest airport pairs, with Jeju-Seoul the most popular route globally, with 13.2 million passengers flying between the two airports in 2024.

Govt Pushes Centre-State Collaboration in Aviation through Region Conference

As part of its drive to strengthen Centre-State collaboration and promote cooperative federalism in the aviation sector, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, led by Hon'ble Minister Shri Ram Mohan Naidu, along with Hon'ble CM Shri Devendra Fadnavis and MoS Shri Murlidhar Mohol, convened the Western Region Conference in Mumbai with senior



representatives from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Daman & Diu, and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, building on the success of the earlier Northern Region meet and reaffirming the government's vision to make all States and UTs equal partners in shaping India's aviation growth, with the Western Region poised to become a hub for aviation, MRO, and flight training.

AAI's CSR Initiative Brings Mobility and Health Support to persons with disabilities

Under its Corporate Social Responsibility programme, the Airports Authority of India (AAI), in collaboration with ALIMCO, organised a special outreach in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, where Union Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Ram Mohan Naidu, along with AAI Chairman Shri Vipin Kumar and Member (HR) Dr. H. Srinivas, distributed

assistive devices worth ₹2.7 crore to 739 persons with disabilities, including motorised tricycles, wheelchairs, hearing aids, canes, and walkers, while also launching a breast cancer awareness and screening campaign to reach about 60,000 women across 20 villages, reaffirming AAI's commitment to inclusive growth and community welfare.





TURBULENT TIMES

In this article I plan to leverage my expertise and doctoral research in international relations to explore how rising geopolitical tensions are reshaping air travel in 2025.

The Geopolitical Storm Facing Aviation

The global aviation industry in 2025 is navigating a perfect storm of challenges: supply chain disruptions, rising fuel prices, skilled labour shortages, mounting environmental concerns, increasing maintenance costs, cyber threats, and escalating insurance premiums. Yet, geopolitical instability stands out as the most disruptive force.

Aviation has always been closely tied to geopolitics. As a global connector of commerce, diplomacy, and tourism, air travel is vulnerable to the tremors of territorial disputes, cross-border tensions, and political conflict.

The Economic Fallout of Conflict on Aviation

Global conflicts impact aviation at every level. Operational costs in the conflict zones increase flight durations due to re-routing, pushing up fuel usage, and logistical complexity of crew scheduling. Higher operational expenses inevitably lead to increased fares, subsequently lowering passenger numbers and revenue. Airlines thus experience considerable revenue losses due to decreased passenger volumes, cancelled flights, and interrupted cargo services.

Airspace Restrictions: A Costly Detour

One of the most immediate consequences of geopolitical strife is airspace closures. Whether due to diplomatic sanctions, military action, or safety advisories, these restrictions force detours that translate directly into longer flights, higher costs, and operational chaos. Conflicts often disrupt the supply of critical components and resources for aircraft manufacturing and maintenance, leading to production delays and increased costs.

Aviation is a recognized pivotal global infrastructure, enabling economic growth, and cultural exchange. However, rising geopolitical tensions, are increasingly disrupting global air travel. Here is my analysis of the substantial impact recent global conflicts have had on air travel, providing detailed data-driven insights, examining economic repercussions, and exploring strategic responses.

Russia - Ukraine War (2022–Present)

The war between Russia and Ukraine has significantly disrupted air travel and altered global flight patterns. Western nations banned Russian carriers from their airspace, and in retaliation, Russia restricted access to its skies for numerous carriers. This has led to re-routed long-haul flights between Europe and Asia, forcing airlines to fly further north or south, resulting in increased fuel burn and travel times and decreased per flight profitability. Data from Eurocontrol demonstrates that rerouting due to the conflict increased average European flight times by approximately 7% impacting over 1 million annual flights, more than \$2.25 billion annually in additional fuel and operational expenses. Eastern European passenger traffic dropped by approximately 20% during 2022-2023. Reportedly, several Ukrainian airports have been severely damaged or rendered inoperable.

Middle East Instability

Ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, particularly between Iran, Israel, and neighbouring nations, have led to airspace closures and restricted flight corridors. During heightened tensions between the U.S. and Iran in early 2020, airlines were advised to avoid Iranian airspace due to potential security threats. The war in Yemen has also led to restricted air routes over the Arabian Peninsula, affecting Gulf



DR. INDERJIT SINGH
is an aviation consultant and former CEO of
Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi

Dr. Inderjit Singh, a global aviation consultant with ICAO and former CEO of Indira Gandhi International Airport, considers the impact global conflicts have on the aviation industry.

carriers significantly. The net result was additional annual airlines cost of approximately \$1.2 billion due to rerouting, a decline in regional passenger numbers by 15% during peak conflict periods, and an increase in aviation insurance premiums ranging between 20-30%.

North Korea

Due to North Korea's unpredictable history of frequent missile tests and lack of international aviation transparency, most airlines avoid North Korean DPRK airspace entirely. This has made East Asian flight planning more complex, requiring strategic re-routes to ensure passenger safety.

Afghanistan (Post - 2021 Taliban Takeover)

In Central Asia, following the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in 2021, many airlines ceased flights over Afghan airspace due to security uncertainties. This affected flight routes between Europe and South Asia, leading to detours that increased operational costs.

South China Sea & East China Sea

The South China Sea and East China Sea in the Asia-Pacific Region have witnessed escalating territorial disputes involving China, Japan, Vietnam, and Philippines. Such conflicts have significantly impacted crucial aviation corridors, prompting airlines to adopt alternative flight paths to ensure safety. Around 500,000 flights get impacted on an annual basis, causing an operational cost increase of around \$1 billion, and approximately 10% decrease in passenger traffic during periods of conflict.

Syria (2011 - Present)

The Syrian Civil War has significantly impacted regional air travel, leading to the suspension of numerous airlines' operations in affected airspaces. Re-routing of flights has resulted in operational disruptions and substantial cost increases. Major airports in Syria have severely been damaged or destroyed.

South Asia 2025: A New Flashpoint

In April 2025, a deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir claimed the lives of 26 tourists. India attributed the attack to Pakistan-based terror groups, launching retaliatory airstrikes, triggering a regional military escalation - the worst in 30 years.

Pakistan closed its airspace to Indian carriers, which prompted India to reciprocate by banning Pakistani carriers. These closures forced numerous major international airlines, including Lufthansa, Air France, British Airways, and Singapore Airlines, to re-route flights to avoid the conflict zone. India suspended operations at 32 airports across its northern and western regions, including major hubs

like Amritsar and Srinagar, leading to the cancellation of over 430 flights.

The airspace closures and re-routed flights resulted in substantial financial losses for airlines. Indian carriers alone faced an estimated annual loss of approximately \$840 million due to increased fuel costs, longer flight paths, and operational challenges.

The conflict's impact extended beyond South Asia, affecting global aviation routes. Flights from the UK to Asia experienced delays of up to four hours due to the combined effect of avoiding both Pakistani and Russian airspaces. Passengers faced missed connections, extended travel times, and increased ticket prices.

Despite a temporary ceasefire agreement on May 10, 2025, reports of ongoing drone attacks and retaliatory responses persist.

The Way Forward: Global Coordination and Resilience

As geopolitical risks become a defining feature of modern aviation, a coordinated global response is essential.

Governments, airlines, airport operators, and international bodies must collaborate to enhance threat detection through real-time intelligence sharing, and develop alternative routes and simulate crisis scenarios.

Further, we ought to implement smart air traffic management to optimize re-routes, minimize disruptions, and strengthen airport security especially in known volatile regions.

A Call for Action

Terrorism continues to target the core values of freedom, democracy, and human dignity. It destabilizes governments, violates human rights, and directly threatens global aviation. Beyond defence, the fight against violent extremism requires Multilateral Cooperation, Community Engagement, Academic and Religious Dialogue, and most importantly Responsible Media Narratives.

My Take – The New Normal

We need among the political, military, and civil-aviation leadership an intense desire and determination to end this menace of cross-border terrorism at its very roots, from where it emanates; including those who plan and glorify such events.

We must recognize that geo-political dynamics no longer impact isolated regions/territories, as the connectivity impact of aviation has transcended the notion of finite and distinct boundaries, leading to event driven pan world consequences. The international community needs not just preachers of peace but committed partners ready to act decisively to mitigate global impact.

"True, at times we need war to achieve peace."

The idea that war brings peace is a common saying, often used in political and military contexts. It suggests that war can, at times, be a necessary means to achieve a lasting peace.

The U.S. government responded to the 9/11 attack by declaring a "war on terrorism," leading to the invasion of Abbottabad, Pakistan on May 2, 2011, via Operation Neptune Spear, in which US SEAL Team Six shot and killed Osama bin Laden at his 'Waziristan Haveli'. The creation of the Department of Homeland Security, and a range of other security measures were an outcome of the incident; which have since become the global template for successfully implementing security measures until date.

It is an unfortunate reality that geopolitical tensions are a part of our lives that require us to be aware and better prepared going forward.

The aviation industry is not just about moving people—it is about connecting economies, cultures, and civilizations. Protecting it from the ripple effects of conflict is no longer optional, it is vital.



Wings of Growth: The Symbiotic Relationship of Aviation and Tourism in India

Aviation and tourism are co-dependent and often intensely linked. Aviation acts as a driver, and indeed very often, the catalyst for tourism growth by providing easy accessibility to distant destinations. Conversely, flourishing tourism often boosts the demand for air travel as well. This symbiotic relationship is visible as many routes connected in the RCS-UDAN scheme have now gained popularity among tourists.

The Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN) was introduced with the main objective of facilitating and stimulating regional air connectivity by making it accessible and affordable. This is done through concessions by the Central Government, State Governments, and airport operators to reduce the cost of airline operations and financial support to meet any gap between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such routes. Currently, under this scheme, 87 unserved and underserved airports are operational with better connectivity of important tourist places including iconic sites.

Over the years, the government has initiated multiple projects and schemes to promote tourism. Some of these initiatives are:

- The Ministry of Tourism has launched a new scheme, Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD), for the development of tourism infrastructure in historical places and heritage cities. The Ministry has sanctioned 48 projects at a total cost of ₹1647 crore. Further, 27 new sites have also been identified for development under this scheme covering 18 states/UTs.
- The Ministry of Tourism, along with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs, has strengthened the visa regime in a bid to increase inbound tourism. As of December 2024, the e-visa facility has



been extended to nationals of 167 countries under various sub-categories.

- The Indian government has taken many measures to promote different sections of tourism, such as medical, religious, rural, eco, and adventure. Nowadays, medical tourism has also become an important source of revenue for the healthcare sector, especially in North India. The government has also taken a step to permit foreigners to visit India on e-Tourist visas to attend short-term yoga programs.
- The Government of India's "Incredible India" campaign has been instrumental in promoting the country as a holistic tourist destination in both domestic and international markets. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the states, union territories, and other central agencies to develop tourism in their area and promote the culture and natural beauty of different regions and pilgrimage sites. Many state governments have also started their own outreach programs to promote tourism.

According to the Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) report published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in 2024, India is ranked 39th among the 119 countries in terms of its ability to foster travel and tourism development. The continual integration of technology presents an exciting future for aviation and tourism. Personalization, a mobile-first strategy, and the rampant use of digital

payments are some of the factors contributing to increased ease of travel.

Domestic tourism, together with inbound tourism, has emerged as a key driver of economic growth. As per the Ministry of Tourism, India recorded Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) of 9.66 million (provisional), which accounted for Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) of ₹2,77,842 crores (provisional estimates) with a growth of 19.8% in 2024. There were 2.5 billion Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV) all over the country during the year 2023 (as per the data furnished by State/UT Governments to Ministry of Tourism, the latest data is yet to be updated).

Its latest report, published by Statista in 2024, has highlighted the following key points regarding tourism in India:

- The Travel & Tourism market in India is expected to generate revenue of USD 25 billion in 2025. The projected annual growth CAGR until 2029 is 8%, which translates to USD 34 billion.
- The largest segment in this is the Package Holidays market, which is expected to reach USD 11 billion in 2025. By 2029, the number of users in the Package Holidays market is expected to increase to 118 million users.
- The Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) is expected to be USD 215.
- Online sales are expected to increase to 60% of the total revenue by 2029.

Despite short-term challenges such as uneven infrastructure and the need for greater sustainability, the strong synergy between aviation and tourism, coupled with continuous policy reforms and technological integration, positions India to unlock its vast potential, enhance global connectivity, and establish itself as a premier destination on the world tourism map, thereby creating millions of jobs and fostering inclusive growth for years to come.

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Quarterly Review of Indian Aviation – Q2-2025 Pax Traffic at a glance

The Indian aviation sector is one of the fastest growing sectors in the country. During the second quarter of 2025, airports across the country handled ~105 million pax traffic as against 99.5 million during the same quarter of 2024, witnessing an overall growth of ~6%. The following graph shows the international and domestic pax traffic handled at Indian airports during Q2-2025 vs. Q2-2024:

International pax traffic has increased to ~20 million during this quarter and has registered an increase of 7% yoy. Domestic pax traffic has increased from 81 to 85 million and witnessed ~5% growth in this period.

Key highlights:

- The top 10 airports in the country continue to handle more than 70% of the total pax traffic.
- ~83% of the total international traffic and ~68% of domestic traffic has been handled by the top 10 airports.
- Delhi airport continues to maintain its leadership position with approx. 18% share of total pax handled across airports in India, followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru with 13% and 11% share respectively.
- In terms of international pax traffic, Bengaluru airport reported the highest growth of ~30% amongst the top 10 airports.
- Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Guwahati airport reported the highest growth (double-digit yoy) both in terms of total as well as domestic pax traffic amongst the top 10 airports.
- The other major airports contributing to the growth in the domestic sector are Bhubaneswar, Coimbatore, Indore, Kozhikode, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi and Varanasi.
- The domestic pax traffic at Srinagar airport has dropped by ~40% yoy after the Pahalgam attack in April 2025 and subsequent tensions between India and Pakistan.

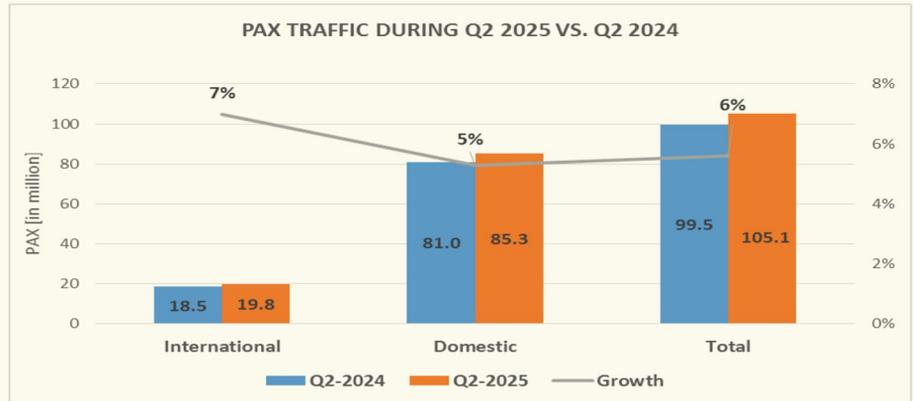
Major recent events:

- The government reinforced its ambition by unveiling plans to add 50 more airports in the next five years and passing the Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025 to strengthen aircraft financing.
- India and China are set to resume direct passenger flights after a five-year hiatus, a move expected to boost trade, tourism and economic engagement between the two nations.
- A key external challenge arose with Pakistan's closure of its airspace to Indian carriers, impacting West-bound flight operations.
- Among the key players, IndiGo added London, Amsterdam and Manchester to its international flight map and announced the construction of its MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) facility at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, set to be operational by early-2028.
- Air India, backed by the Tata Group, demonstrated resilience and commitment in the aftermath of the AI-171 incident and took measures to maintain operational continuity despite compounding circumstances resulting from DGCA-ordered enhanced surveillance for Boeing 787 aircraft, geopolitical tensions in West Asia and night curfew in the airspaces of

many countries in Europe. It stays committed to its USD 400 million retrofit program wherein 27 single-aisle and 40 twin-aisle aircraft will be upgraded to offer a superior cabin experience. The airline also plans to bring aircraft maintenance services in-house with support from shareholder Singapore Airlines, in a bid to move away from state-owned AIESL following safety concerns.

- Akasa Air completed 3 years of operations and announced the addition of Phuket as its 6th international and 29th overall destination.

The industry outlook remains positive, underpinned by strong domestic demand, expanding airport infrastructure and consolidation among major carriers. Overall, this quarter showcased the industry at an inflection point. On one hand, Indian aviation is scaling rapidly, with airlines expanding fleets, modernizing cabins and launching new routes to capture both domestic and international demand. The government's supportive policy stance and strong customer appetite are setting the stage for long-term growth. At the same time, structural pressures such as high fuel costs, congested hubs and geopolitical disruptions necessitate the need for operational discipline and resilience.



Freight traffic at a glance

During the second quarter of 2025, 955 thousand tonnes of freight was handled as compared to 906 thousand tonnes during the same quarter of 2024, witnessing an overall growth of 5.4%. The international and domestic freight handled has been depicted in the following graph:



International freight handled increased to 595 thousand tonnes during this quarter registering an increase of 4.7% yoy. Domestic freight handled has increased to 361 thousand tonnes registering 6.6% growth during this quarter.

Key highlights:

- The top 5 airports [Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad] handled more than 90% of the total international freight.
- More than 30% of the total international freight has been handled by Delhi Airport followed by Mumbai airport with 28% share.

- In terms of domestic freight, the top 5 airports handled more than 65%. Delhi airport has the highest share of ~26% followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru with ~16% and ~13% share respectively.
- In international as well as domestic sector, Chennai airport has witnessed a significant growth of 19% and 16% respectively, which is highest amongst the top 5 airports.
- Delhi and Hyderabad airport have reported a substantial growth of 12% and 9% respectively in terms of domestic freight handled at these airports.

Report By: Ms Renu Grover,

Traffic Analyst, Former GM (CP & MS), Airports Authority of India



Tribute to Shri K. N. Ardhnareswaran: A Guiding Force in Aviation

Shri K. N. Ardhnareswaran, the last Chairman of the International Airports Authority of India (IAAI), was a leader of rare wisdom and integrity. Known for his calm demeanor and sharp administrative acumen, he successfully guided both the National Airports Authority (NAA) and IAAI through critical times, laying the foundation for their historic merger into the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

His passing leaves a profound void, but his enduring legacy of vision, trust, and leadership will continue to inspire generations. We join in prayer for his soul to rest in eternal peace.

RECOGNISATION



Shri Raman Sidhu Appointed as Independent Director

Aria Hotels Ltd., owner of JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, has appointed veteran HR leader Shri Raman Sidhu as an Independent Director and Chairman of its Audit Committee. He will also serve on the Nomination & Remuneration Committee.

With over three decades of global leadership experience, Shri Sidhu currently heads Learning Operations at Shell and has previously served on the boards of HSBC, Fidelity, Barclays, NHPC, BHEL, and IIFCL. His appointment underscores Aria Hotels' commitment to strong governance, strategic leadership, and driving growth in India's hospitality sector.



Shri Vinod Zutshi Honored with ITCTA Lifetime Achievement Award

Shri Vinod Zutshi, IAS (Retd.) and former Secretary, Tourism, was conferred the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the ITCTA and ICM Group at the ITCTA Awards 2025 held in New Delhi. Shri . Zutshi continues to inspire through his

multifaceted roles as an advocate, election expert, and arbitrator.



Dr R.K. Tyagi Appointed as Distinguished Professional at AICTE

Dr R.K. Tyagi, former HAL Chairman and expert in corporate governance and mediation, has been appointed Distinguished Professional at AICTE. With extensive board-level experience and roles as Trustee for organisations like Art of

Living, FAST, Bal Aarogya, and Air India, the IICA-certified mediation expert will strengthen AICTE's initiatives with his leadership and expertise.



Shri Arvind Singh: Expanding Horizons with Distinguished Leadership

The Foundation for Aviation and Sustainable Tourism (FAST) proudly celebrates the remarkable achievements of Shri Arvind Singh, whose leadership continues to leave a lasting impact on aviation, tourism, and allied sectors. In

2024, Shri Singh assumed multiple prestigious roles, joining Mitsui & Co India Ltd as Senior Advisor in April and becoming an Independent Director on the Board of KEC International Ltd in June. He has since been appointed as an Independent Director at Power Exchange India Ltd, promoted by NSE, and Oriental Hotels Ltd, part of the Taj Group, further demonstrating his expertise and influence across diverse industries.

FAST commends Shri Singh for his visionary leadership, strategic contributions, and dedication to advancing sustainable aviation and tourism. His recent appointments reflect a continued commitment to excellence, inspiring professionals across sectors to pursue innovation and growth.



FAST Welcomes Our Newest Trustee – Shri Sandeep Gupta

FAST is delighted to welcome Shri Sandeep Gupta, a visionary entrepreneur and hospitality expert, as its newest Trustee. With extensive experience in developing and managing luxury hotels, including JW

Marriott New Delhi Aerocity and Hyatt Regency Mumbai, Shri Gupta brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the organization. His leadership and insights will be invaluable as FAST continues to promote sustainable aviation and tourism practices.

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