# AVI-NEWS

Nov-Dec, 2022 INDIA

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# **Fatigue in Aviation**



Dear Friends,

Amid the country's growing air traffic and expanding aircraft fleet, fatigue among pilots seems to be a dark cloud with senior captains and pilots' groupings stressing on the need for more serious efforts to address the concerns. While regulations on flight duty time limitations and specific rest periods are in place, a more scientific approach as well as a better fatigue reporting system will help in tackling the "silent danger of fatigue", according to the senior captains.

The causes of pilot fatigue for both LRF and SRF are primarily related to sleep quality, sleep loss and the disruption of Circadian Rhythms. Pilots report that night flights and jet lag are the most important factors that generate fatigue in LRF.

A study of USAF pilots and navigators in 2006 found that 94% reported performance degrading effects of fatigue, which contributed to decreased situational awareness in 73%, slowed reaction time in 67% as

well as increased distractibility (43%), forgetfulness (41%) and apathy.

In signs, that fatigue is a worrying factor for the fast-growing Indian aviation space, a recent survey of 542 pilots by NGO Safety Matters Foundation showed that 66 per cent respondents admitted that they have fallen asleep without planning/consent of the other crew or experienced micro sleep. 31 per cent of pilots also responded that they had a close call while flying which could have led to an incident attributable to fatigue. In 2010, an Air India Boeing 737 crashed in southern India, killing 158 people on board. According to the official inquiry, the pilot had been asleep for nearly three hours of the flight and woke disoriented just before the landing at 6:30 am. Thus, there is a need to raise the level of knowledge within the industry regarding the causes and consequences of fatigue and of processes for its management. The most common ways for pilots to avoid jetlag is staying hydrated, good rest, avoiding caffeine and alcohol, exercise or sleeping on the airplane by turn.

In this issue we once again focus on the rising proportion of middle-income households in India, healthy competition amongst Low-Cost Carriers, infrastructure build up at leading airports and supportive policy framework which is giving a positive push to the aviation sector.

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Sanjiv Aggarwal

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# Minister of Civil Aviation inaugurates 4th Heli-India Summit 2022



# Guidelines on Fractional Ownership Model released to help growth of the non-scheduled operations

Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia said that a civil enclave will be built in Jammu at a cost of Rs 861 crores and the Srinagar's present terminal will be expanded three times from 20,000 square meters to 60,000 square meters at a cost of Rs 1500 crores. Sh. Scindia said this while inaugurating 4th Heli-India Summit 2022 with the theme 'Helicopters for last Mile Connectivity' at Sher-e-Kashmir International Conference Centre, Srinagar,

During the summit, Sh. Scindia said that the decrease in VAT on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) from 26.5 percent to one percent by the J&K government has set a new dawn for air connectivity in the Union territory with 360 percent increase in refueling, thus increasing the air connectivity to Jammu and Kashmir.

Praising PM Narendra Modi for bringing a revolution in the Civil

Aviation sector in India from 2014 onwards, Sh. Scindia said that from 1947 to 2014, the country had only 74 airports, but now the number has increased to 141, with 67 added in last seven years which shows the pace of progress in the Civil Aviation sector.Sh. Scindia said that the Civil Aviation has now become the need of the hour not only for India but for humankind across the world as it always brings with it two important multipliers,

the economic multiplier and the employment multiplier. The sector has huge impact with economic multiplier of 3.1 and employment multiplier of 6, the Minister informed. Therefore, the Civil Aviation across the world today forms a very important cog of the wheel of economic development, the Minister added.

During the summit, Sh. Scindia said that helicopters have multifarious























roles, providing urban connectivity which is no more an elitist prerogative in India. The other roles of helicopter service has been the emergency medical services and disaster management during floods, rescue operations.The Helicopter Accelerator Cell is fully active in resolving helicopter issues and the advisory group of industry representatives is helping identify problems areas. "We have waived off landing and parking charges for helicopters at airports and we have started helicopter sensitization training of ATC officers for speedier helicopter traffic handling.

The Minister informed that today the guidelines on Fractional Ownership Model have been released to help grow the nonscheduled operations. "While our scheduled operations are on the fast track and we have increased the fleet size from 400 aeroplanes in 2013 to more than 700 in 2021-22, through these guidelines, we should be able to spur growth in the non-scheduled fleet too. Fractional ownership will lower the barrier on the cost of acquisition of helicopters and aeroplanes through pooled capital by multiple owners. This will allow companies and individuals to minimise their capital outflow by sharing the purchase cost, reducing their exposure to risks and making it financially easier to run a NSOP business. Fractional Ownership Model has the potential to energize the NSOP segment by democratising ownership of aircraft and it can be a key driver

to boost the number of aircraft existing in the NSOP industry. The helicopter industry should be recognised for its social service. It is not a transportation vehicle but a transformation tool, it can be used not only for economic development but could also to transform lives.", he added.

Shri scindia said that we have also decided to incubate a HEMS pilot called Project Sanjeevani by deploying a helicopter in the next few weeks to provide emergency medical services. It is the intention of the Govt to expand medical outreach and access to trauma care services to a wider population base across the country using the speed advantage and mobility of helicopters.

























# MoU signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and international Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)



India has a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022 and reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030

In a ceremony held on the sidelines of the 42th Session of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly in Montreal on 26 September 2022, a MoU was signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and ICAO in the presence of Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of Civil Aviation of India, H.E. Monsieur Clement Beaunne, Minister of Transport of France and Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the ICAO Council. The MoU was signed by Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary-

General, ICAO and Mr. Joshua Wycliffe, Chief of Operations, ISA.

reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030

During the visit of Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia to Montreal in May 2022, the idea of ICAO becoming a partner organisation of ISA was mooted by the Minister in his meeting with President of ICAO. In a period of four months, the MoU was agreed and concluded.

























The ISA is an alliance of 121 signatory countries and 32 partner organizations including many UN organizations. ISA works for efficient consumption of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. ISA strives to devise cost effective and transformational solutions for using renewable energy to member countries with a particular focus in delivering on impact in LDCs and SIDCs.

India has pledged for Net Zero Carbon goal in 2070 in COP 26. Its approach continues to be human-centric, based on respect and national ownership principles, all. India has pledged a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy of which 100 GW will be solar energy by 2022 and reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030, to let solar energy reach the most unconnected villages and communities. Cochin International Airport in India became the world's first fully Solar powered airport in the world in 2015.



India, with the support of France, has invited nations to facilitate infrastructure for implementation of solar projects. The alliance has committed one trillion dollars as investment, and it is committed to making the costs of solar power more affordable for remote and inaccessible communities.

ICAO is committed towards reducing carbon emissions in aviation sector through its numerous initiatives and goals. In

this noble initiative, Partnership between ISA and ICAO through this MoU could not have come at a better time, as it will trigger a range of interventions towards developing capacity of States to use solar energy. It will work towards providing information, providing advocacy, capacity building and demonstration projects. It will enable the solarization of aviation sector across all Member States.



























In a significant development for aviation within the Middle East, Antonoaldo Neves has been appointed as group chief executive officer of Etihad Aviation Group. The appointment was announced by ADQ, the Abu Dhabi based investment and holding company, along with Etihad's Board of Directors this week.

Neves replaces Tony Douglas "who has decided to pursue an opportunity elsewhere", according to a release issued by ADQ. Douglas served in that role since January 2018. Neves was formerly the CEO and board member of TAP, the national airline of Portugal. Prior to TAP, he was

the president of Azul Airlines in Brazil, and led the company to IPO in the NYSE. He was also a partner at McKinsey and Company, where he developed the long-term plan for aviation sector development in Brazil.

Earlier, The Supreme Council for Financial and Economic Affairs had transferred full ownership of Etihad Aviation Group (EAG) to ADQ, an Abu Dhabi-based investment and holding company. The transfer of EAG complements ADQ's efforts to realize Abu Dhabi's vision to strengthen the emirate's position as a global aviation hub delivering

integrated and competitive aviation services.

Etihad Airways is a global leader in air travel, recognized for its best-in-class service and sustainable travel experience, connecting to 63 destinations in 42 countries.

Earlier this year, EAG's ancillary businesses were transitioned into ADQ to create a new integrated aviation support services company, ushering in a new wave of growth for the sector. EAG will continue its aspiration to be a leading global airline that delivers a best-in-class customer experience, unrivalled services, and care for its guests, as part of ADQ's aviation portfolio.

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Universal Hydrogen is making hydrogen-powered commercial flight a near-term reality. The company takes a flexible, scalable, and capital-light approach to hydrogen logistics by transporting it in modular capsules over the existing freight network from green production sites directly to the airplane anywhere in the world. The company is targeting regional and narrowbody/single aisle airplanes as the near-term and most impactful decarbonization opportunities. Universal Hydrogen is also working to certify a powertrain conversion kit to retrofit existing regional aircraft to fly on hydrogen.

Universal Hydrogen plans to fly the first-ever hydrogen-powered regional airliner by the end of this year using a hydrogen-fuel-cell-based powertrain housed completely in one of the nacelles of a De Havilland Dash 8-300 turboprop. Now in the late stages of testing the powertrain architecture in an

iron bird test rig at its facility in Hawthorne, California, Universal Hydrogen has partnered with Aerotec to perform the engine integration and fly the aircraft out of Moses Lake, Washington.

Universal Hydrogen hopes to sell hydrogen fuel capsules and module technology to serve as both the fuel tank within the aircraft and the method of transporting hydrogen from where it's produced to the aircraft. Their hydrogen fuel capsules offer 2X weight savings over conventional tech. Hydrogen is generally regarded as a cleaner fuel, since it produces only water when consumed by a fuel cell. There are a variety of ways that hydrogen can be produced, such as natural gas, nuclear power, biomass and renewable power like solar and wind.

There's a lot of money being invested in hydrogen, but not everyone is convinced of hydrogen's benefits; some research suggests it's still too energy-intensive

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to produce. That's because much of the hydrogen now produced comes from natural gas facilities, but converting that production to wind and solar could open the gates to a greener aviation industry.

Universal Hydrogen has also begun work on an ATR 72 in Toulouse, France, where, the company plans to integrate virtually the same powertrain design into the Franco-Italian turboprop, giving it the same roughly 500 nm range the modified Dash 8 will feature. Universal uses the ATR to perform engineering

development and test what the company calls its "modular logistics technology." The company's modular capsules store hydrogen during transit and serve as fuel tanks that load directly onto the aircraft. The modular fueling concept avoids the need for expensive and time-consuming development of hydrogen fueling infrastructure at airports, allowing for the transport and handling of hydrogen using the existing intermodal freight network and cargo handling equipment.

Meanwhile, Universal Hydrogen continues preparations for a new manufacturing and distribution center for its hydrogen propulsion systems in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In March the company signed an agreement with New Mexico's governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham, to develop the facility on a 50-acre greenfield site at the city's main airport. Universal said it will invest \$254 million in the facility, where it plans to start production in 2024 and hire 500 employees over the next seven years. Universal now employs about 100 people.



AVITRUE HAS TIE UP WITH FAA AND EASA APPROVED SHOPS IN US AND EUROPE FOR COMPONENT REPAIR

























# Conference of the Ministers of Civil Aviation of States and UTS Organised

About Rs 95,000 Crores to be Invested in the Aviation Sector in the Next Four Years: Shri Scindia

Ministry of Civil Aviation organised the Conference of the Ministers of Civil Aviation today. Speaking on the current scenario, the Minister said that the civil aviation sector has passed through difficult times and it is now ready for take-off to its true potential. Calling India a towering phoenix, the Minister said that India today is one of the few countries operating seamlessly in a high demand-led environment. He said that this has been possible because during Covid times, the

Government identified the drivers needed to give the boost to the sector and took proactive measures.

The Minister further said that the major growth for aviation has been in the Tier II and III cities, compared to larger cities. This shows that the civil aviation is reaching the common masses. The Government is making consistent efforts to strengthen air infrastructure in small cities and has provided connectivity Scheme to unserved and under-served places.

In last six years, 70 new airports have been brought under UDAN

Shri Scindia stated that the cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) remains a challenge as it constitutes 45-50% cost in airlines operations. He thanked 28 States, which have brought down VAT on ATF to 1-4%. He also urged the remaining 8 States to bring down the VAT so that the barriers to growth are removed. The Minister said that cheaper raw

























material would give impetus to better connectivity.

On the issue of airports, the Minister said that in next four years, about Rs 95,000 crore are likely to be invested by the Government and the private sector, which includes greenfield as well as brownfield airports. The Airports Authority

of India is working on expansion of about 40 airports and setting up of 3-4 new greenfield airports. Similarly, private sector is also working on 60 brownfield and 3 greenfield airports.

The Minister emphasised on the importance of helipads in providing last-mile connectivity. He said the government recently abolished TNFC/RNFC charges in 21 states to encourage helicopter operations. He said 82 helicopter corridors have been identified. The Minister also talked about augmentation of flight training organisation capacity in the country and facilities for engine servicing.

Speaking on drone technology, the Minister said that a new revolution has begun and India is leading the initiative in the sector. He said a conducive policy for promoting drones is already in place; incentives have been announced through PLI, and use of drone services are being promoted in a large manner with 22 Ministries concentrating on this.

Shri Scindia expressed that the Government is ready to undertake an expansion of civil aviation sector. He called upon the States to have greater participation and be constructive partners in the progress.

























# Jet Airways identifies 5 aircraft for its initial fleet

After a hiatus of three years, Jet Airways is planning to resume its operations in India by the end of this month with five aircraft. The domestic carrier will initially take off with three A320 Neo and two B737-8 MAX planes, according to a CNBC TV-18 report.

After collapsing and shutting shop in 2019 due to crippling debt, the airline was taken over by a consortium of Dubai-based businessman Murari Lal Jalan, and Florian Fritsch, chairman of Londonbased financial services firm Kalrock Capital Management Ltd.

Jet Airways has been looking to restart its operations, which was initially scheduled for September, but has been struggling with payment to its lenders. Lenders led by the State Bank of India (SBI) who had approved the resolution plan by the consortium in October 2020 have asked the Jalan Kalrock Consortium to distribute proceeds from aircraft rentals that Jet Airways receives among financing banks.

The resolution plan for the revival of Jet Airways was finalised in October 2022 and the plan's implementation was conditional on the validation of Jet Airways' air operator's permit, approval of the business plan and the approval to re-allot all

suspended slots including bilateral and air traffic rights to Jet.

The airline is in the process of signing lease agreements, according to sources. The relaunch, which was initially scheduled for September, looks likely to be delayed beyond October. While there is no official communication on the structure, an Airbus A320neo aircraft is likely to be the first to join the airline's fleet. Airbus has reportedly listed one A320neo under Jet Airways' name in its monthly report. The plane with Jet Airways' logo was spotted at Maastricht Airport. "The picture of Airbus aircraft with Jet Airways' branding is real", a source confirmed. Sources had also said that the airline is hiring pilots and cabin crew for both Airbus and Boeing planes.

























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## AW109

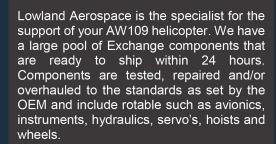
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