



IAAI Newsletter

May 2017 — IInd Fortnight Issue

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Delhi State Executive Committee

The National Director Board has approved the reshuffle that has been done in our Delhi State Executive Committee at a meeting held on 3rd June.

Since the present President Mr. Jagdeep Bhagat has the responsibility to organize the IAAI - Northern Region, the Delhi State Committee has been reorganized as given below:

	Mr. Tushar Jain—President BTC Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi tushar@btcctravels.com 9810230050		Mr. Gurinder Singh Bhatia— Senior Co-ordinator Travel Experts, New Delhi texperts@airtelmail.in 9899064372
	Mr. Sanjay Kumar Bhardwaj— Vice-President Anuga Travel & Tours, New Delhi sanjay@anugaholidays.com 9911206008		Mr. Dev Roop Soni—Senior Co- ordinator Coronation Travels Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi contact@coronationtravels.com 9810079660
	Mr. Harish Verma—Secretary Reisen Tours India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi harish@reisentours.com 9810040254		Mr. Jagdeep Bhagat (IPP) - Ex- officio Member Vee Bee Tours & Travels, Delhi jb@veebeetours.com 9310203050
	Mr. Vikas Arora—Treasurer Lumax Tours & Travels Ltd., New Delhi vikas.arora@lumaxmail.com 9910031718		Mr. Harjit Singh Chawla— NMC Member Speed Air, New Delhi speedair@hotmail.com 9811171114
	Ms. Surinder Kumar—NMC Member TravelMate India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi md@travelmateindia.net 9810011848		

This is a stopgap Committee until the next AGM when either a new EC will be elected or the above Committee is ratified.

Vistara introduces self-service check-in at kiosks across airports in India



Vistara, launched self-service kiosk check-in at Delhi's Terminal 3, Indira Gandhi International Airport and Mumbai's Terminal 2, Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport. Vistara is set to launch the same service across 17 other airports that it operates from by the end of June 2017.

The self-service kiosk check-in is also available for Singapore Airlines and SilkAir customers who are flying on Vistara-operated aircraft under code-share tickets. Customers will now be able to check-in, select preferred seats and print their boarding passes for their flights at the self-service kiosks without having to queue up at check-in desks. Customers with check-in baggage can simply print their boarding passes using the kiosks and drop off their baggage at the check-in desks before proceeding to security check.

SriLankan Airlines increases frequencies to New Delhi



SriLankan Airlines, the national carrier of Sri Lanka and a member of the oneworld alliance will be adding four more frequencies to its current daily operations to/from New Delhi from July 15, 2017. This announcement reinforces the significance of the Indian market and specifically North India for the airline. The flights are in addition to the ongoing daily 7 flights departure ex Delhi at 1845 hrs and arrival in Colombo at 2220hrs.

These flights will each feature an array of bespoke services, world-class in-flight entertainment including a combination of practical timings and signature SriLankan Airlines hospitality services. The purpose of adding these flights is to provide passengers with added convenience and a wider choice in terms of travel between the two countries and seeking onward connectivity.

The four new flights with morning arrivals have been introduced specifically for the business community and leisure travellers from North India to Sri Lanka. With an arrival time of 0845 hrs, it will be convenient for Indian tourists coming to Sri Lanka as they can utilize the whole day and have convenient check in times at hotels in Sri Lanka. The departure time of 0035 hrs will also be extremely convenient for business travellers as they can conduct their business within the day in Colombo and return to Delhi. The morning arrival time in Colombo for the new flight will also give convenient connections to destinations like Maldives, Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore and Bangkok.

Air India to connect Delhi and Stockholm with Boeing 787 Dreamliner



Air India announced non-stop flight services between Delhi and Stockholm, starting from August 15, 2017. The services will be operated thrice a week - Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays - with each flight roughly having 8-hour duration. The flight will depart from Delhi at 1400 hrs (IST) and arrive in Stockholm at 1820 hrs (CET). The return flight will leave Stockholm at 2100 hrs (CET) and reach Delhi the next morning. The flight will be operated thrice a week on Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft.

IndiGo to introduce daily non-stop flight between Singapore & Bengaluru



IndiGo announced its first non-stop flight and 5th overall flight between Singapore and Bengaluru with effect from June 10, 2017. With the launch of the daily direct flight, IndiGo offers an affordable and a convenient option on two of the busiest business sectors. Effective June 10, 2017, IndiGo will operate ninth flight between Hyderabad and Chennai, third flight between Hyderabad and Raipur, sixth flight between Chennai and Mumbai, second flight between Hyderabad and Pune, and first flight between Pune and Kochi to strengthen connect between metro cities. The additional frequencies are specifically introduced for late evening and early morning slots to provide a convenient and hassle-free choice to travellers at affordable fares.

AirAsia X inaugurates daily Mumbai-Bali flight



Budget airline AirAsia X is starting its daily services on Mumbai-Bali route from today deploying the 377 seater Airbus A330-300 aircraft on the route. The Airbus A330-300 aircraft, will offer 365 seats in economy and the rest 12 as flatbed seats. This also marks the debut of AirAsia in Mumbai as this is the first flight of the group to fly from Mumbai.

The flight departs from Mumbai (BOM) at 2250 hrs and reaches Bali (DPS) at 1045 hrs next day with a stop over at Kuala Lumpur for 1 hour 15 minutes. The return flight service from Bali will commence at 1510 hrs and reach Mumbai at 2135 hrs the same day with the stop over at Kuala Lumpur of 60 minutes.

Alliance Air commences Delhi-Gwalior-Indore-Mumbai route



Following the operation of first flight between Delhi and Shimla under regional connectivity scheme, Air India's, wholly owned subsidiary Alliance Air begins its second flight service under Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme on Delhi-Gwalior-Indore-Mumbai route from 31st May 2017. The newly launched flight service will be operated by the 70-seater ATR 72-600 all economy class aircraft.

Delhi-Gwalior, Mumbai-Indore and Indore-Mumbai routes will not fall under regional connectivity scheme while benefits of the scheme will apply on other routes that is Gwalior-Delhi with fare of INR 1830, Gwalior-Indore with fare of INR 2500 and Indore-Gwalior with fare of INR 2500.

Operating three days a week on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, flight 9I 628 will depart from Delhi at 0950hrs and reach Gwalior at 1050hrs. The onward flight from Gwalior will depart at 1120hrs to reach Indore at 1235hrs and then leave Indore at 1305hrs to land at Mumbai at 1450hrs. Flight 9I 627 on Mumbai-Indore-Gwalior-Delhi route will leave Mumbai at 1030hrs and reach Indore at 1215hrs. The flight will then leave Indore at 1250hrs to reach Gwalior at 1400hrs and furthermore, the flight from Gwalior will leave at 1430hrs and land at Delhi airport at 1530hrs.

GoAir strengthens Pune connectivity with two new destinations



GoAir announced the commencement of two additional flights out of Pune. Effective May 19, the airline has started daily flights from Pune to Bengaluru and Kolkata. These additional flights from Pune will provide non-stop connectivity from Pune to Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Nagpur, Delhi and Kolkata.

The city of Pune and state of Maharashtra both play an important role in GoAir's network. The new routes aim at connecting Pune across its network and providing passengers flexible options in planning their travel. Passengers travelling from Pune will have better access further bolstering the airline's already extensive domestic network.

Finance Ministry announces 28% GST on Hotels with tariff of over INR 5,000



Finance Ministry headed Goods and Service Tax (GST) Council decided to place the service sector under four slabs of 5%, 12%, 18% and 28% as compared to the current uniform 15% levy on all eligible services. Restaurants with an annual turnover of less than INR 50 lakh will fall under the 5% tax slab, while non-AC food joints will be taxed at 12%. Air-conditioned restaurants with liquor licences will be taxed at 18%. Hotels and lodges with a tariff below Rs 1000 a day will be exempted from GST, while those with a room rate of between INR1000-2500 will be taxed at 12%. Five star and luxury hotels will be taxed at 28%.

Lemon Tree Hotels opens Twin Hotel with Convention Centre at Gurugram



Lemon Tree Hotel Company (LTHC), leading Indian domestic hotel chain, has further strengthened their hold in the hospitality space of Delhi NCR region in general and Gurugram (erstwhile Gurgaon) in particular with the opening of twin Hotels- Lemon Tree and Red Fox - with a dedicated Convention facility - at Sector 60, Gurugram. The two hotels together offer 258 rooms and suites and over 20,000 sqft of dedicated convention block with commercial and office space, claimed to be the largest accessible MICE destination in Delhi NCR. Spread in 4.5 acres, the hotels and convention complex is located away from the hustle bustle of the city just off the Golf Course Extension Road and from the business hubs of the city.

While Lemon Tree Hotel has 104 guest rooms and suites with a multi-cuisine coffee shop, Citrus Café, and hip recreation bar - Slounge, in addition to the business centre, fitness Gym and open air, swimming pool, Red Fox Hotel has 154 rooms and suites with multi-cuisine coffee shop - Clever Fox Café - a Cyber Kiosk, a meeting room, fitness centre, etc.

The Fern Silvanus Resort debuts in Alibaug, Maharashtra



The Fern Hotels & Resorts announced the opening of The Fern Silvanus Resort Alibaug, in Raigad district of Maharashtra. A premium resort surrounded by densely forested hills, it offers 34 spacious cottages with the highest level of comfort. The resort conveniently locates itself in the coastal town at a distance of 9 km from the Nagaon Beach while the Kolaba Fort is 40mins away. Other tourist attraction includes Akshi Beach, Varsoli Beach and Kihim Beach which are in close proximity to the resort. The property delivers exceptional service, artful decor and an array of luxury amenities with unparalleled environment responsibility. All cottages are spacious and offer a beautiful view of the surrounding hills and are equipped with all modern amenities required for a comfortable stay.

Royal Orchid Hotels launches 3rd hotel in Mysore – Regenta Central Herald



ROYAL ORCHID
HOTELS

Royal Orchid Hotels Limited, announced the launch of its third hotel in Mysore with Regenta Central Herald. With this launch, the Royal Orchid chain of hotels stands at 43 hotels in 28 different cities in India and is all set to add five more hotels to its portfolio in the coming months. The property is located on Nelson Mandela Road, Bannimantap in Mysore which is approximately just 4 kms from Mysore Railway Station. The hotel offers 70 well-appointed spacious rooms, fitness centre, mini bar and a multi cuisine restaurant. One can also enjoy MICE facilities with multi-functional banquet spaces which can accommodate up to 300 guests making it an ideal venue for social and corporate events. Among the key attractions at the hotel is its restaurant: PINXX - fine dining restaurant of Regenta Central Herald. One can create his/her everlasting memories by savoring the extensive range of authentic international and native cuisines prepared by the expert chefs. Accommodating more than 50 guests PINXX is recognized for its state-of-the-art ambience and lavish style.

Mu Cang Chai district, Vietnam

PHOTO FEATURE



Mù Cang Chải is a rural district of Yên Bái Province, in the Northeast region of Vietnam. The rice terrace fields in La Pan Tan, Che Cu Nha and Ze Xu Phinh have been recognized as national landscapes by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. The Mu Cang Chai Rice Terrace Fields stretch across 2,200 hectares of the mountainside as narrow layers of terraces ranging from between 1m and 1.5m wide. Around 500 hectares of these terraces belong to 3 communes such as La Pan Tan, Che Cu Nha and Ze Xu Phinh.

Lighter Moments

A man was very excited when he saw the text message on his phone, "Salary credited to your bank". Jumping for joy, he rushed towards his car to go out for shopping. As soon he opened the door of the car, he received another message, "Car loan debited from bank account."

He closed the door of the car & decided to take a taxi. He got another message, "Credit card payment made". He changed his mind again & started walking toward local mall. He got another message, "Please maintain minimum balance in your bank account."

He turned around & started walking back home.

Thought for the Fortnight

We live in different times, but there are some basic principles that we can turn to that are not specific to any religion, nation or race, which guide us towards peace, joy & harmony.

— Arjun Bala

IAAI Director Board

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2. Mr H S Chawla, National Treasurer & Director—Northern Region

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Full Page	Rs. 15,000/-	Rs. 40,000/-	Rs. 75,000/-	Rs. 1,35,000/-
Strips	Rs. 2,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 18,000/-

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