

SpiceJet gets to work with revitalised Boeing 737 MAX

ONBOARD EXPERIENCE: Less noisy, more fuel-efficient, more legroom

RITWIK SHARMA
New Delhi, 23 November

The aviation industry can do with quiet efficiency, rattled as it has been by the Covid-19 pandemic.

A revitalised Boeing 737 MAX aircraft, which SpiceJet is hinging on to transform the low-cost carrier's prospects, brings this very same promise of getting down to the repair job with minimum fuss. And literally so.

Before embarking on a breezy flight on Tuesday, carrying a press contingent from New Delhi along with aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia to his borough of Gwalior and back, one was privy to the note of optimism among officials of SpiceJet and Boeing.

Since the Federal Aviation Administration cleared the decks for the grounded aircraft exactly a year ago, 175-plus out of 195 global regulators have opened their airspace to the 737 MAX, and 32 airlines have resumed their fleets to service. For SpiceJet, it is a potential game changer as an economical aircraft that burns 20 per cent less fuel — the most expensive component of input costs — and incurs lower engineering costs, too.

"We are happy that the aircraft has been reintroduced; it's the backbone of SpiceJet's fleet," gushed SpiceJet chief Ajay Singh before takeoff. Belying fears over MAX's benighted past of being grounded after two fatal crashes (see box), Singh promised that it is the safest aircraft with no complaints of glitches following a software update and SpiceJet's own recent trials. SpiceJet's eventual aim is to replace all of its older Boeing 737-NG fleet with the MAX, and Singh is certain that flyers wouldn't opt out of it.

A brunch and a press conference later, the proof of the pudding was in the eating. The aircraft, with its imposing wings and turbine engines, was parked for a good half hour longer than the planned 2 pm start. Scindia walked up the boarding stairs first, quietly past a gaggle of reporters and photographers. As the rest moved in and the plane taxied, one of the first signals of a smooth operator was how one wasn't alerted by the familiar "barking" sound — when a device that balances the hydraulics is at play.

As it took off also, the engine settled into a hum rather than a roar, and justified the claim that the new jet emanates 40 per cent less noise footprint, resulting in a quieter and silent cabin. Its other efficiencies include

Fleet of all 13 MAX to take off soon

LOW-COST CARRIER SPICEJET RESUMED SERVICES OF THE BOEING 737 MAX, which had been a backbone of its passenger fleet and was grounded for two-and-a-half years, on Sunday.

As its sole operator in India, SpiceJet hopes to significantly improve its bottom line with the 737 MAX, which its chairman Ajay Singh promised is the safest aircraft to fly and also more sustainable and less noisy than its older fleet. The 737 MAX was grounded globally after

346 people were killed in two airline crashes — off the Indonesian coast and in Ethiopia — in 2018-19.

SpiceJet had struck a \$22-billion deal with Boeing for the delivery of up to 205 aircraft in 2017. Thirteen aircraft that had been in operation for six months and remained in India are resuming services now. Two aircraft are flying currently, while the rest are expected to in another 15-20 days — on domestic as well as international routes. Singh said the airline will try to expedite delivery of 50 MAX aircraft by 2023, starting December 10. Out of the 50, 15-20 will replace existing ones.



a cut in nitrogen emissions by 50 per cent, up to 20 per cent less fuel than older 737s, and more legroom than other carriers in its class. The roominess was accentuated by lean black-cushioned seats that come with an adjustable headrest.

Another temptation is in the offing — the aircraft is equipped with Satcom that will enable it to offer broadband internet on board. SpiceJet has promised to introduce the feature soon, and for free initially. The only exception will be no voice call, as it could disturb passengers.

No sooner had the flight rid of the seat belt sign than a rush for a sound byte from the aviation minister ensued. But the reporters returned after persisting for a while, with murmurs of not getting any new word out of him although he addressed them patiently. For those who stayed put, the reward was a quick

meal of fruits, paneer rolls, a vermicelli salad, mixed fruit juice and a dessert.

The sun shone brighter as the aircraft touched down on Gwalior, within 40 minutes of leaving from a sunny, smoggy Delhi. The minister left quietly, and the airline's officials, crew and ground staff joined together for photo-ops on a red carpet on the tarmac.

The return flight, minus the minister, was swift and with less incident — as short trips tend to be.

Earlier in the day, Singh stressed that the airline's objective is to clean up its balance sheet and promised a new spirit and SpiceJet 2.0, come January. He also anticipates a new class of first-time flyers — who took to flying for lack of options post-Covid, despite fears — adding to traffic growth as the aviation sector recovers with vaccination picking up pace in India.

The Boeing 737 MAX, making a clean break with its past, will be the key to that cleanup.

NUMBER WISE

INDIA'S DRUG CHASE COULD BE ON THE WRONG TRAIL

The country has more cases registered for personal drug use than murder; it is cracking down on cannabis when opioids appear to be the bigger problem

SACHIN P MAMPATA
Mumbai, 23 November

The arrest of movie star Shah Rukh Khan's son, Aryan Khan, after a raid on a cruise ship party has put the focus on India's drug enforcement. While granting him bail, the Bombay High Court said: "The court *prima facie* has not noticed any positive evidence against Aryan Khan and two others." The Narcotics Control Bureau also alleged his friend, Arbaaz Merchant, was found with six grams of charas, which is made from the cannabis plant.

India's drug crackdown focuses on cannabis though the plant's products are gradually finding acceptance in other places. Canada, Italy, Germany and some places in the US have taken steps to legalise at least some cannabis products. India's National Crime Records Bureau has data on the quantity of drugs seized every year under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. The data shows that over 60 per cent of the total quantity of seized drugs in 2020 was cannabis-based as seen in chart 1.

The lockdown to slow down the coronavirus may have contributed to higher cannabis seizures, according to Om Prakash Singh, former professor at the Nil Ratan Sircar (NRS) Medical College, Kolkata, whose work covers substance abuse.

"...cannabis is home-grown in India, heroin is mainly imported from other countries," he said.

India has more cases registered for personal drug use than murder: this holds true for the last few years for which comparable data is available.

Cases registered for drug trafficking are fewer (see chart 2).

This crackdown on users has been criticised as a ploy to boost conviction rates. The poor are often picked up and made to plead guilty, resulting in a quick conviction, according to earlier research by independent think tank the Vidhi Centre For Legal Policy. An analysis of the 2020 numbers shows that the NDPS conviction rate is 81.6 per cent overall and 86.7 per cent for personal drug consumption cases. This drops to 44.1 per cent for murder cases and 39.2 per cent for cases related to crimes against women.

The state's crackdown on users would suggest that India has a cannabis problem. Data doesn't support that premise. India's cannabis use is lower than the global average, show numbers from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's report entitled "Magnitude of Substance Use in India 2019".

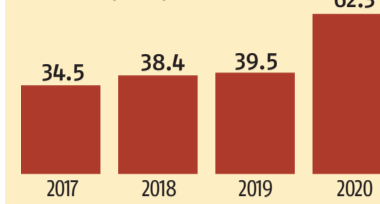
The report suggested India's bigger problem is opioids. These cover opium, heroin and pharmaceutical opioids. Prevalence of their use in India is higher than the rest of the world (see chart 3).

"Comparing the figures for illicit drug use globally with India, while the prevalence of cannabis use is lower than the global average, prevalence of opioid use... (in)... India is three times that of global average," said the report.

"Purely legal approach to drug use has failed to meet with success, and strategies are shifting to harm reduction, which include decriminalisation of substance use, and treatment and rehabilitation," said Om Prakash Singh.

MAJORITY OF DRUGS SEIZED IN 2020 WERE CANNABIS-BASED

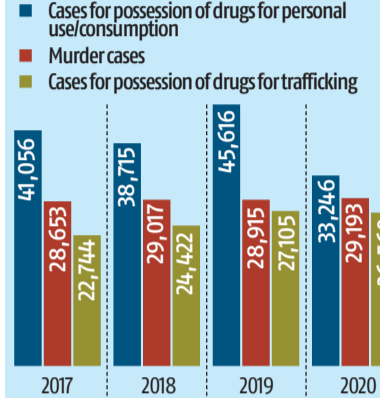
Share of cannabis-based drugs in seizures (in %)



Note: Shows share of cannabis-based drugs in total kilogram quantity of drugs seized. Data covers ganja, hashish and charas seized for the given years under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. Source: NCRB, Business Standard calculations

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION POLICED MORE THAN OTHER SERIOUS OFFENCES

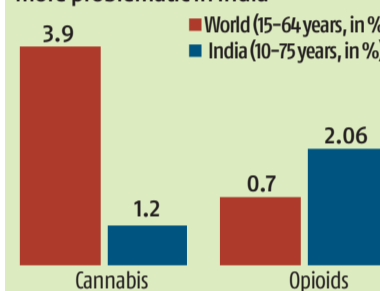
Shows number of cases in a given year



Source: NCRB

CANNABIS USE IN INDIA IS LOWER THAN GLOBAL AVERAGE

Other forms of drug abuse appear more problematic in India



Note: Cannabis data presented here pertains to only the illicit forms (i.e. ganja / charas). Bhang is not included in these estimates. Source: Magnitude of Substance Use in India 2019, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

BKT **balkrishna industries limited**
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Tel No. +91 22 6666 3800 Fax: +91 22 6666 3898/99
Website: www.bkt-tires.com E-mail: shares@bkt-tires.com

NOTICE TO THE MEMBERS
Members of the Company are hereby informed that a Postal Ballot Notice, seeking members' consent on the resolution set out in the said Notice has been sent electronically to the members whose e-mail address is registered with the Company/ KFin Technologies Private Limited ("KFinTech"), Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent/Depository Participant(s), as on Friday, 12th November, 2021, i.e. the Cut-Off Date. The Company has completed electronic despatch of the Postal Ballot Notice on Monday, 22nd November, 2021.

The Postal Ballot Notice is available on the Company's website at www.bkt-tires.com and on the website of the Stock Exchanges, that is, BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively and on the website of KFinTech, at <https://evoting.kfintech.com>. Members who do not receive the Postal Ballot Notice may download it from the above-mentioned websites.

The documents referred to in the Postal Ballot Notice are available for inspection electronically and members seeking to inspect such documents can send an e-mail to shares@bkt-tires.com.

Instruction for e-voting:

In accordance with the applicable circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the Company is providing to its members the facility to exercise their right to vote on the resolution proposed in the said Postal Ballot Notice only by electronic means ("e-voting"). The communication of the assent or dissent of the members would take place through remote e-voting process only. The Company has engaged the services of KFinTech as the agency to provide e-voting facility. Members may cast their votes during the period mentioned herein below:

Commencement of e-voting: 9:00 a.m. (IST) on Wednesday, 24th November, 2021

End of e-voting: 5:00 p.m. (IST) on Thursday, 23rd December, 2021

E-voting will not be allowed beyond the aforesaid date and time and the e-voting module shall be forthwith disabled by KFinTech upon expiry of the aforesaid period.

Manner of e-voting by members holding shares in dematerialised mode, physical mode and members who have not registered their email address has been provided in the Postal Ballot Notice. The manner in which persons who have forgotten the User ID and Password, can obtain / generate the same, has also been provided in the said Notice.

A person, whose name is recorded in the Register of Members/ List of Beneficial Owners as on the Cut-Off Date shall only be considered eligible for the purpose of e-voting. Voting rights of a member/beneficial owner (in case of electronic shareholding) shall be in proportion to his/her/its shareholding in the paid up equity share capital of the Company as on the Cut-Off Date. **A person who becomes a member after the Cut-Off Date should treat this notice for information purpose only.**

Manner of registering/updating e-mail address:

- Members holding shares in physical form may register their email address and mobile number with KFinTech by sending an email request at the email ID inward.ris@kfintech.com along with the copy of the signed request letter mentioning the Name, Address, Folio No., Email address and Mobile number of the Member, self-attested scanned copy of the PAN Card and self-attested scanned copy of any document (such as Driving License, Election Identity Card, Passport, etc.) in support of the address of the Member, for registering their email address and receiving the Notice of Postal Ballot and the e-voting instructions.
- Members holding shares in Demat form can get their email ID registered by contacting their respective Depository Participant.

The resolution, if approved, shall be deemed to have been passed on the last date of e-voting i.e. 23rd December, 2021. The results of e-voting will be announced on or before Monday, 27th December, 2021 and will be displayed on the Company's website www.bkt-tires.com and communicated to the Stock Exchanges and National Securities Depository Limited and Central Depository Services (India) Limited and KFinTech. The Company will also display the results of the Postal Ballot at its Registered Office.

In case of any query on e-voting, members may refer to the "Help" and "FAQs" sections /E-voting user manual available through a dropdown menu in the "Downloads" section of KFinTech's website for e-voting <https://evoting.kfintech.com>.
Contact details for addressing e-voting related queries/grievances, if any: Mr. Ramulu Peraboina-Manager - RIS, KFin Technologies Private Limited, Selenium, Tower B, Plot No. 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally Mandal, Hyderabad, Telangana-500 032, Phone: 040-6716 2222, E-mail: evoting@kfintech.com, Toll free No. 1800-309-4001.

For Balkrishna Industries Limited
Sd/-
ARVIND PODDAR
Chairman & Managing Director
DIN NO. 00089984

Place: Mumbai
Date: 23rd November, 2021

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav **BOI**

FRAUD ALERT
FRAUDS USING MOBILE NUMBER SIMILAR TO BANK OF INDIA TOLL FREE NUMBER

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our Call Centre phone numbers are
Toll free -1800 220 229/1800 1031 906
Chargeable -022-40919191

These numbers are already updated on our official website:
<https://www.bankofindia.co.in/Details/Helpines>

*Be aware of Social Engineering Frauds using Mobile Number similar to Bank's toll free number. Please do not disclose your PIN/CVV/OTP/Card details over phone or any other media.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 08/2021-22/SE/PHC/MVPA
KIFB-WRD005-126-UWSS To Muvattupuzha – Replacing Damaged 200mm AC And 150mm AC Distribution Pipe From Latha Bus Stand Jn. To Kizhakkekkara With 200mm DI And 160mm PVC Pipe In Emakulam district. EMD: Rs. 50000 Tender fee: Rs. 5000 Last Date for submitting Tender: 15-12-2021 04:00:pm Phone: 04852835637
Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-556-2021-22 Superintending Engineer PH Circle Muvattupuzha

Hindusthan Engineering & Industries Ltd.
Registered Office: Mody Building, 27, Sir R. N. Mukherjee Road, Kolkata-70001
CIN: U93000WB1998PLC086303; Phone: 033 2246 0166; Fax: 033 2248 1922
Email: ho@helindia.com; Website: www.helindia.com

NOTICE TO THE MEMBERS

- NOTICE is hereby given that the 24th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of Hindusthan Engineering & Industries Ltd. is scheduled to be held on Friday, 31st December, 2021 at 2:00 pm (IST) through Video Conferencing / Other Audio Visual Means (VC/OAVM) in compliance with the provisions of Companies Act, 2013 read with Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") General Circular No. 14/2020, No. 17/2020, No. 20/2020 and No. 02/2021 dated 8th April, 2020, 13th April, 2020, 5th May, 2020 and 13th January, 2021 respectively. The Members can attend and participate in the ensuing AGM through VC/OAVM facility provided by National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). The instructions for joining the AGM through VC/ OAVM and the manner of taking part in e-voting process forms part of the notice convening the AGM.
- In compliance with the above circulars, soft copies of the Notice convening the 24th AGM ("Notice") and the Annual Report for the financial year 2020-21 will only be sent through e-mail to all the shareholders whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/ Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (RTA) i.e. M/s C.B. Management Services Private Limited ("CBMSL")/ Depository Participants. The Notice will also be available on the Company's website at www.helindia.com.
- Members holding shares in physical mode who have not yet registered/updated their email address are requested to register the same by sending a scanned copy of their PAN Card by e-mail at rtat@cbmsl.com to CBMSL, to receive the Notice, Annual Report and login ID/ password for e-voting.
- Members holding shares in physical mode and who have not yet updated their mandate for receiving dividend directly into their bank accounts through any RBI approved electronic mode of payment may register the same by sending Bank Details along with a Cancelled Cheque to the RTA at rtat@cbmsl.com. However the Board of Directors has not recommended any dividend for the year.
- Members holding share in demat mode should update their email addresses and bank mandate directly with their respective Depository Participants.
- Pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Saturday, 25th December, 2021 to Friday, 31st December, 2021 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of AGM.

This notice is being issued for the information and benefit of all the members of the Company in compliance with the applicable circulars issued by the MCA.

By Order of the Board
Hindusthan Engineering & Industries Ltd
Sd/-
R. K. Agarwal
(Company Secretary)

Place: Kolkata
Date : 20th Day of November, 2021

#BSMorningShow

Will Indian conglomerates go the J&J and GE way or adopt a different approach?

How are craft spirits brands brewing a storm in the premium liquor market?

What precautions should we take as online frauds become rampant?

Get the answers in the new episode of

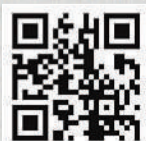


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PLAY INSIGHTS

