QUICKLY.

Anicut Capital, Chennai Angels establish AIF

Chennai: Anicut Capital has partnered with angel investment network The Chennai Angels to strengthen early-stage start-up investing in India. Start-ups that meet the investment criteria will have the opportunity to secure funds through the Alternative Investment Fund (AIF). The AIF will be backed by Anicut's recently-launched Grand Anicut Seed Fund with a target corpus of ₹175 crore. OUR BUREAU

MakeMyTrip adjusted operating profit rises 8.6%

New Delhi: MakeMyTrip Ltd reported an 8.6 per cent rise in adjusted operating profit for the quarter ended in June at $51.4 million. The firm posted an adjusted operating profit of $47.3 million for the corresponding period of last fiscal, a regulatory filing showed. Revenue for the quarter grew 16.1 per cent y-o-y in constant currency. PTI

AAI finalises 11 players for flying schools at 7 airports

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT PUSH. Move aimed at spurring aviation training capacity

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

SPREADING WINGS. The FTO expansion assumes significance as airlines have placed record aircraft orders

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has finalised 11 bidders to establish Flying Training Organisations (FTOs), or flying schools, at seven airports across the country as part of the Centre's efforts to expand domestic pilot training capacity.

Speaking to *businessline*, sources said the selected bidders will be issued letters of intent (LoI) to establish FTOs at airports in Keshod, Kadapa, Hubballi, Thoothukudi, Kishangarh, Dholera and Solapur under Round-III (Phase-I) of AAI's FTO development programme. The initiative is aligned with the Centre's *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* vision and is aimed at strengthening aviation training infrastructure amid growing demand for pilots in India.

Accordingly, the programme seeks to create additional pilot training capacity by leveraging underutilised airport infrastructure while encouraging private investment in aviation training.

NETWORK EXPANSION

The FTO expansion assumes significance at a time when Indian airlines have placed record aircraft orders and are expected to require thousands of additional pilots over the coming years to support fleet induction and network expansion.

The selected operators will establish the necessary training infrastructure, including aircraft, simulators, classrooms, maintenance facilities and qualified instructors, in accordance with Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) requirements.

These airports have been selected based on operational suitability, available airspace and infrastructure required for flight training activities.

Consequently, the programme is expected to reduce dependence on overseas training facilities by creating additional domestic capacity for commercial pilot training, while also improving access to training opportunities across different regions of the country.

The State-run AAI has been progressively expanding the flying training ecosystem through successive bidding rounds as part of its strategy to develop India into a global aviation training hub.

TRAINING OPERATIONS

The successful bidders will be required to complete regulatory approvals and infrastructure development before commencing flying training operations.

In addition, data from the Ministry of Civil Aviation showed that the country currently has 10,261 valid Airline Transport Pilot Licence holders.

The government has projected that India will require around 30,000 pilots over the next 15-20 years to support the induction of around 2,000 aircraft already on order by India's airlines.

TRAI revamps 'MyCall' mobile app to improve voice quality and network

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The regulator said that the app is expected to enhance the overall quality of service

> **The app offers features such as instant rating** of voice calls through a 1-5 star feedback

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Monday launched a revamped version of "TRAI MyCall', a mobile app that enables telecom consumers to directly assess and report voice-calling experience and network issues.

The feedback provided by consumers is visible to telecom service providers (TSPs) as well as TRAI in an anonymised form.

"Every telecom consumer experiences network quality first-hand. The revamped TRAI MyCall app is expected to strengthen consumer participation feedback on telecom service quality by enabling subscribers to provide immediate and perceived feedback on their call experience," said TRAI Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti.

BETTER EXPERIENCE

"The feedback will assist telecom service providers in identifying network deficiencies and taking corrective measures, enhanced customer satisfaction, and a better overall mobile communication experience. The initiative reinforces TRAI's commitment to a consumer-centric, transparent, and data-driven approach to improving the quality of telecom services," he said.

The app offers features such as instant rating of voice calls through a 1-5 star feedback. It would also enable consumers to report specific issues such as call drops, echo during calls, audio delay, cross-connection and voice breaking — which will be available to respective service providers for corrective action.

The regulator said that is expected to enhance the overall quality of service.

The platform also strengthens evidence-based regulatory oversight by enabling TRAI to assess the quality of experience across telecom networks based on real consumer feedback, a statement added.

NETWORK QUALITY

"With over one billion telecom subscribers in India, voice calling continues to be the most fundamental telecom service and is often the first indicator of quality experienced by consumers. While network performance is evaluated using technical quality of service parameters, the quality of experience) perceived by consumers also provides an important perspective on service performance," TRAI said.

It noted the app bridges this gap by combining consumer feedback with relevant network information to facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of telecom service quality.

Centre set to review pilot hiring rules to make entry of new airlines easier

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

The Centre is set to review pilot recruitment norms, among other measures, as part of a broader overhaul of the civil aviation regulatory framework aimed at lowering entry barriers for new airlines.

Speaking to *businessline*, sources said notice periods, no-objection certificate (NOC) requirements and management staffing regulations had emerged as key areas under review. It forms part of a wider package of aviation sector reforms currently being examined by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) to facilitate the entry of new scheduled operators and improve competition across the sector.

According to sources aware of the deliberations, pilot availability and recruitment norms emerged as a key area under examination, with policymakers set to review existing provisions on pilot notice periods, NOC requirements and employment-related restrictions that airlines say delay the recruitment of experienced cockpit crew.

Industry stakeholders argued that new airlines often face significant challenges in building operational capability quickly because incumbent carriers already employ a large proportion of experienced commanders, who remain subject to lengthy notice periods before they can change employers.

KEY FOCUS

According to sources, the government will assess whether existing regulations governing pilot mobility could be rationalised without compromising safety standards or disrupting airline operations. Apart from cockpit crew availability, policymakers will examine the challenges of recruiting experienced management personnel for new airlines.

Currently, carriers are required to appoint key managerial personnel who meet the Directorate General of Civil Aviation-prescribed qualifications across critical functions such as flight operations, engineering, safety and maintenance before receiving regulatory approvals to commence operations. Besides manpower-related issues, officials will study whether operational bottlenecks at airports continue to create barriers for new entrants even after regulatory approvals are obtained.

Corona Remedies lines up deals with global partners, eyes FY29 exports from new hormone manufacturing facility

Avinash Nair
Ahmedabad

Founder and Managing Director Nirav Mehta

Corona Remedies has lined up commercial agreements with partners across Europe, the UK and other international markets and expects to begin supplying them from its new ₹130-crore EU-GMP-approved (European Good Manufacturing Practice) hormone manufacturing facility by FY29, with regulatory dossier filings scheduled for November-December this year.

The Ahmedabad-based pharmaceutical company said it has completed bioequivalence studies and is in the final stages of preparing regulatory dossiers, which will be submitted to overseas partners for filing by the end of 2026. The approval process is expected to take 12-18 months, paving the way for commercial supplies to regulated international markets from FY29.

APPROVAL IN PROGRESS

"The hormonal plant started on June 30. We are in the final stage of developing the dossiers. By November-December 2026, we will be ready with the dossiers after completion of bioequivalence studies. We have already done a lot of promising agreements with partners. We will send these dossiers to the concerned countries for registration, and it will take another 12-18 months. We are projecting FY28-FY29 to kick off this plant at an international level, and we have high hopes from the international market," Founder and Managing Director Nirav Mehta said during the company's earnings call on Monday. The company said the new facility follows a "one world, one quality" manufacturing philosophy and will cater to both domestic and international markets. Management said Corona has already invested around ₹130 crore in the EU-GMP-approved hormone manufacturing plant.

GROWTH DRIVER

Management said women's healthcare therapies contribute around 30 per cent of the company's domestic revenues, while hormone therapies account for nearly 30 per cent of the women's healthcare portfolio, making the segment one of the company's most important growth drivers.

Hormonal products were earlier manufactured at the company's Solan facility, but production is now being shifted to the new plant, which will supply the Indian and overseas markets.

Revenue from the plant is projected to account for less than one per cent of turnover in FY27, increasing to around 2-3 per cent over the following three years as export approvals are secured and international supplies commence. While exports are expected to accelerate over the medium term, India will remain Corona Remedies' primary market.

Mehta said international business currently contributes about three per cent of the company's revenue and is expected to grow to high single digits over the next three to four years, while domestic operations will continue to account for more than 90 per cent of overall revenue.

Supporting the export strategy is Corona's backward integration through La Chandra Pharma Labs, in which the company holds a 31 per cent stake. "Today, about 65 per cent of progesterone API manufactured in India comes from La Chandra. Around 60-65 per cent of our API requirement is sourced from La Chandra, while the balance comes from other manufacturers," Mehta said.