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Welcome to e-news

CONTENTS

- Current Affairs → Technology → Business → Awards
- Events → Career → Advertisement-Avenues → Lighter Vein

NEW WEBSITE OF THE SOCIETY

Aeronautical Society of India has launched a new website at the 59th AGM held at IIT Chennai, on 1st Feb 2008..

visit the website with <http://www.aerosocietyindia.com/>



Hawks take wings in IAF colours - Details under Technology

READER'S RESPONSE

The editorial team invites your views, suggestions, to the News about Members Column and contributions to the e-news.

ISRO ponders mission to red planet before 2015

Udhagamandalam: After the Moon, it could be Mars before 2015 for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) if the ambitious space missions drawn up by ISRO's Advisory Committee for Space (ADCOS) up to the year 2020 are realised in the envisaged time frame. This was disclosed here by Prof. U.R. Rao, former Chairman of ISRO and currently Chairman of ADCOS, in his inaugural address at the four-day 15th National Space Science Symposium (NSSS-2008) which got underway.

Source: The Hindu

Tata arm to supply parts for Boeing's Dreamliner

The US-based aircraft manufacturer Boeing has entered into an agreement with TAL Manufacturing Solutions, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Motors, for manufacturing structural components for Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft. In a statement, the company has said that the agreement will see TAL build floor beams for the Boeing 787 aircraft using technology with advanced titanium and composite materials. The floor beams will be produced at the new facility in Nagpur and be transported to Boeing partners in Japan, Italy and the US for further assembly. The financial terms of the agreement were, however, not disclosed.

Source: Business Line

DRDO plans satellite-based coastal surveillance system

India is planning to establish a satellite-based coastal surveillance system to monitor and guard its long coastline extending beyond 7,500 km. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has prepared a blue print for the system and has made some headway in developing the ingredients for it, according to Dr A Sivathanu Pillai, Chief Controller (R&D). The major national project to be launched soon would require a dedicated satellite, which would be fabricated.

Source: Business Line

Scientist must make LCA a success

Bangalore: Defence Minister A K Antony told defence scientists to make the homegrown Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas a success to further the process of indigenisation of India's defence needs. Addressing scientists at the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) here, Antony congratulated them and said: "The entire country is watching for the day when LCA becomes a success."

Source: Indian Express

Retain HAL Airport

The imminent closure of the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) owned airport for passenger traffic and the subsequent opening of the Bangalore International Airport (BIAL) at Devanahalli, has given rise to a number of questions for the city. As the deadline approaches, a lot of heat has been generated on the subject. The Government of Karnataka, in particular, should address the most important questions like, how will the shift from HAL to BIAL affect the air travel needs of the city's population, especially in the short term and what are the likely economic effects from the shift to the new airport.

Source: Deccan Herald

Eurofighter Typhoon best for India's military needs: EADS

Showcasing its Eurofighter Typhoon as a front runner for the IAF multi-role combat aircraft (MRCA) order, European Defence and Aerospace Consortium (EADS) today said the jet fighter was best suited to meet India's tactical and strategic military requirements. "We have received firm orders for over 700 aircraft from Germany, UK, Italy, Spain and Austria as also for 72 aircraft from Saudi Arabia. We have already delivered about 140 of them. Typhoon is one of the main contenders for the MRCA competition," EADS' Military Air Systems Communication Head Mr Theodore Benien told PTI here. The multi role combat aircraft, which is competing with other global fighters like F-16, F-18 and MIG-29 for the IAF order for 126 fighter planes, is a four-nation programme.

Source: Economic Times

Viswapati Trivedi is NACIL Joint Chairman

Viswapati Trivedi has been elevated Joint Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the National Aviation Company of India limited (NACIL), which came into existence after the merger of the public sector Air India and Indian last year. Mr. Trivedi, belonging to the 1977 batch of the IAS from the Madhya Pradesh cadre, was till now its Joint Managing Director. He will hold the rank of Additional Secretary, an official release said.

Source: Hindu

India joins elite league with undersea missile

India is finally ready to gatecrash into the exclusive club of the Big Five countries, US, Russia, China, France and UK, which field submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) - the most reliable, survivable and deadly nuclear strike weapon. India's very own SLBM, dubbed 'K-15' under the overall Sagarika project, is finally ready after 10 years of hits and misses and four tests from 'submersible pontoon launchers' over the last year. "The final test of the K-15 missile, with a strike range of 700 km, will be conducted any day now, probably within this month off Vishakapatnam. Its development is complete. We are ready to integrate it with the mother ship," DRDO chief controller Dr Prahlada told TOI.

Source: Times of India

New supersonic cruise missile to take off soon

The BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, one of the most successful products of Indo-Russian military collaboration, is about to get a successor. The new missile in its hypersonic version will fly much faster than BrahMos. After the successful development of BrahMos, both India and Russia will develop the missile jointly. Though in the conceptual stage, the new hypersonic missile will have great kinematics energy, range and a powerful scramjet engine to make it a precision lethal weapon. Kinematics is the study of pure motion without regard to force, momentum or energy. The kerosene-fuelled missile is believed to be much cheaper than the design concepts worked in the western countries. "The hypersonic missile will have a speed of Mach 5 (five times the speed of sound)," Dr A Sivathanu Pillai, CEO and managing director of BrahMos Aerospace, said at the ongoing defence exposition here.

Source: Deccan Herald

Hawks take wings in IAF colours

Twenty-six years after the IAF mooted modernisation of the trainer aircraft, the world's fourth largest air force on Saturday inducted the Hawk advanced jet trainer (AJT) planes into its system. The induction took place amidst an impressive display led by five state-of-the-art Hawk-132 aircraft and the HAL-made Surya Kiran aircraft and witnessed among others by Defence Minister Mr A K Antony and British High Commissioner Mr Richard Stagg. The AJT will seek to bridge the performance gap between the basic jet trainers and frontline fighters. The training

period will also be reduced from 18 months to one year.

Source: Deccan Herald

NASA, ISRO in space pact

India and the US plan to cooperate in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, including in the area of human space flights, under a new agreement between their space agencies. A framework agreement establishing the terms for future

cooperation between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and US space agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was signed on Friday at the Kennedy Space Centre by Isro chairman Dr G. Madhavan Nair and Nasa administrator Mr Michael Griffin.

Source: Asian Age

Hypersonic missile on anvil: DRDO

Research is on for developing a hypersonic missile, which will be five times more powerful than BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, said Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) Chief Controller and CEO of BrahMos Aerospace Dr A Sivathanu Pillai. Delivering the 16th Yelavarthy Nayudamma Memorial Lecture on 'India -An Emerging Strategic Power' here today, he stressed the need for a strong association and better coordination among research and development organisations, academic institutions and industries to provide necessary scientific and technological strength to the nation.

Source: Indian Express

BrahMos-2 will see design, development of hypersonic missiles: CEO

India has embarked on project BrahMos-2, which will see the design and development of hypersonic missiles, according to Dr A. Sivathanu Pillai, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BrahMos Aerospace. The project launched jointly with Russia, under BrahMos, will see more than 20 Russian institutes and industry and a bigger number of Indian industry participating. The hypersonic missiles, will fly at Mach 5-7 speeds. One Mach is equivalent to velocity of sound or 330 metres per second), Dr Pillai told Business Line here. Already joint teams from India and Russia have started working on designing different versions of the missiles. The project will be of five year duration.

Source: Business Line

7 IIT-K graduates develop UAV

Seven bright youngsters, all graduates from IIT Kanpur, have developed two models of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) after several years of painstaking research and design. The UAV, developed by the IIT graduates, is on show at Defexpo 08 event

in the capital and caught the eye of Army Chief Gen. Deepak Kapoor when he visited the exhibition. The UAVs can perform several tasks, including reconnaissance and weather-monitoring.

Source: Asian Age

Boeing committed to establish its presence in India

US aviation giant Boeing today said that it is committed to establish its presence in India, after it finalises 500 million dollars joint venture with the Tata Industries. Mr David Schweppe, Director, International Business Development, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, said that the company wants to enhance their markets in India. He said the Tata Industries and the Boeing have agreed to set up a joint venture worth 500 million dollars by June to build aerospace components. "We are going to start phase one in excess of 500 million dollars over 1-10 years of time. Once we establish that an agreement is finalized in June. We would anticipate the potential of issuing sub-contracts to joint venture from Boeing, shortly thereafter," said Mr Schweppe.

Source: Thaindian News

HAL teams with Dassault in deal to upgrade Indian Mirage 2000s

Following the successful Mirage 2000 update programs in Greece and the United Arab Emirates, Dassault and Thales have joined forces with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) to provide a similar upgrade for the Indian Air Force's Mirage fleet. India received 95 first-generation Mirage 2000 fighters in varying configurations and has found the type a very useful asset over the years. In addition to air-to-air roles, the Mirage has served as a precision bomber, carrying ATLIS II designation pods to deliver laser-guided bombs. In this role it saw action in the Kargil conflict in 1999. In early July 2007, Dassault, Thales and HAL signed a partnership deal, submitting an offer to the Indian air force covering a Mirage 2000 upgrade immediately afterward. The proposed upgrade is based on the RDY-2 radar and is an adaptation of the existing 2000-5 Mk 2 and 2000-9 configurations, albeit with provisions to integrate existing and planned Indian equipment.

Source: AINonline

India to spend 1.45 billion dollars on BAe trainer jets: officials

India plans to buy 40 Hawk trainer jets for its air force from British Aerospace (BAe) in addition to 66 purchased for 1.45 billion dollars in 2004, officials said. The air force is in a hurry to acquire more trainers to ready rookie pilots for 126 new fighter aircraft India is set to acquire for more than 10 billion dollars later this year. "The deal (for the 40 trainers) is now as good as done," a senior air force commander told AFP on condition of anonymity. Other military officers said the Indian navy has separately demanded another 17 BAe trainers and the two proposals could be converted into a single contract.

Source: AFP

India to Buy Military Transport Planes from United States

Defense Ministry officials say India's security cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Dr. Man Mohan Singh, recently approved a deal to buy six Hercules transport planes from the United States. The contract for the C-130J planes is expected to be signed next month. The deal will be worth more than \$1 billion. Lockheed Martin officials have told local media they will configure the planes according to India's needs, and equip them with missiles and radar warning systems. The planes are meant to enhance India's Special Forces capability. Although the number of planes involved is small, the deal represents a major change in policy by New Delhi. The Indian Air Force currently uses transport aircraft supplied by the former Soviet Union. The Hercules purchase will mark the first big entry of American military equipment into the Indian defense forces, which for decades have relied heavily on Soviet arms and armaments.

Source: VOA News

Budget airlines eye non-metropolitan cities for expansion

With the budget airlines' hectic fleet expansion activities, the booming civil aviation sector is flying off to a new

high. Billed as one of the biggest investments in recent times, the budget carriers have lined up capacity expansion plans worth billions of dollars to beef up their domestic flights, particularly to non-metro cities where they see higher growth prospects. In fact the process of acquiring new aircrafts started couple of years back. According to industry sources, about half-a-dozen low-cost airlines currently have an order book of close to 250 aircraft placed with Airbus, Boeing and other plane manufacturers. These include a 100-aircraft order worth about \$6 billion by Indigo, orders for 41 aircraft by GoAir and 90 by Air Deccan.

Source: Economic Times

Boeing pushes sale of combat jets to India

Boeing, world's largest maker of commercial jetliners, has said it is "actively pursuing" the sale of multi-rolle combat aircraft to India, which is to spend a \$30 billion on defence procurement in the next five years. "We are actively pursuing the sale of F-18 Superhornets," Mr Kick Stephens, senior vice-president of the Boeing Company, said at the FICCI-US Indian business council summit here. The F-18s are in the race with F-16s, Eurofighter Typhoon and Russian jet fighters for Indian Air Force's 126 combat aircraft deal.

Source: Asian Age

Tata-Israel Aerospace Industries ink memorandum of understanding

The Tata Group on Sunday signed a memorandum of understanding with the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for developing and manufacturing a wide range of defence products, including missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles, radars, electronic warfare and security systems. The announcement was made at the ongoing Defexpo here. It is part of several announcements made by foreign arms companies for meeting their offset obligations. Under the defence purchase policy, between 30 and 50 per cent of all imports over Rs. 300 crore had to be sourced from India. This has made the foreign companies having bagged or in line for big contracts to announce joint ventures or India based companies.

Source: The Hindu

• DRDO scientists get awards

Mr K Tamilmani, Chief Executive of CEMILAC, a DRDO unit headquartered in Bangalore, along with Group Directors Mr B S Vedaprakash and Mr S Neelakantan were awarded the 'National Aeronautical Prize' for the outstanding contribution to aeronautics by the Aeronautical Society of India. The Aeronautical Society of India had awarded Tamilmani the Dr V Ghatge Award for design excellence. The award is in recognition of airworthiness and certification tasks by the team at CEMILAC, a release from the DRDO stated. GTRE Director Mr T Mohan Rao, along with team member Mr Suresh Srivastav, Scientist 'E' has been awarded 'Dr V M Ghatge National Award' for the outstanding contribution made to aerospace technologies. The contribution are related to design and development of variable convergent - divergent exhaust nozzle linkage and control system for Kaveri engine.

Source: Indian Express

CORPORATE PARTNER BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION

Phil Woolas MP,
Minister for the Environment, DEFRA

Tuesday 18 March 2008

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" 2000 Outstanding Scientists 2008/2009"

Merlose press Ltd, Cambridgeshire, UK is in the process of bringing out a "who-is-who" and publish by mid 2009 of "2000 outstanding Scientists". Members of the Society keen to have more information and about inclusion may contact the publisher by e-mail at info@melrosepress.co.uk

HAL to start flying training in Bangalore

Bangalore will soon have a world class flying training institute for helicopter pilots as aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has entered into a Joint venture project with a Canadian company to set up a 'Helicopter simulation park' in Bangalore. HAL Chairman Mr Ashok Baweja said the facility will be developed jointly by HAL and Canada-based aviation firm CAE on equal partnership basis at an initial investment of Rs 240 crore to provide complete range of solutions on helicopter training. " we are setting up a helicopter simulation park in Bangalore to offer complete solutions on helicopter training," Mr Baweja said.

Source: Times of India

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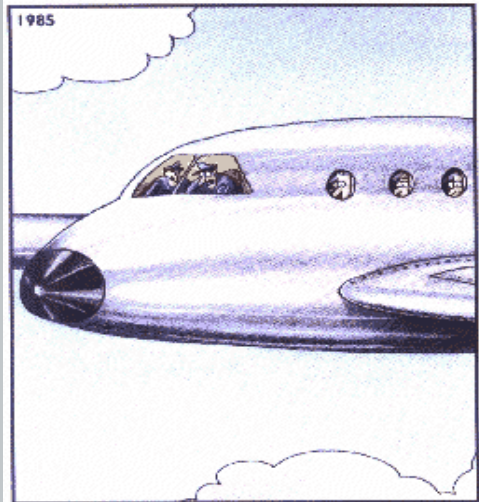
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Snapshots



"For the last time, sir, we'll be serving peanuts *shortly*."



"The fuel light's on, Frank! We're all going to die! ... We're all going to die! ... Wait, wait. ... Oh, my mistake—that's the intercom light."