



## e-news

### Publisher

Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies  
Aeronautical Society of India  
Bangalore Branch Building  
New Thippasandra Post  
Bangalore 560 075  
Karnataka, INDIA  
Telefax: +91 80 25273851  
e-mail: [aerospacejournal@vsnl.net](mailto:aerospacejournal@vsnl.net)  
[editoraesi@dataone.in](mailto:editoraesi@dataone.in)

### Advertisement - Tariff

A4 - 1/8 Page Single Column : Rs. 200

A4 - 1/4 Page Single Column : Rs. 400

A4 - 1/2 Page Single Column : Rs. 500

Draft Drawn in Favour of  
"Journal Office, The Aeronautical Society  
of India" Payable at Bangalore

### Publication Team





Dr R Balasubramaniam  
Mr S Sadasivan  
Dr S Kishore Kumar  
Ms Harpreet A De Singh  
Dr Satish Chandra  
Mrs Shailaja Menon  
Mrs Chandrika R Krishnan  
Mr Hemanth Kumar R

### Head Quarters

The Aeronautical Society of  
India  
13-B, Indraprastha Estate  
New Delhi 110 002, India  
Tel: ++91 11 23370516  
Fax: ++91 11 23370768  
e-mail: [aerosoc@bol.net.in](mailto:aerosoc@bol.net.in)

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### READER'S RESPONSE

It will be nice if you could start an item as news about members. This could include achievements of the members, posting and other activities.

....Prof NGR Iyengar

Publishing Team invites contributions from Members for the "News about Members" Column.

**The editorial team invites your views, suggestions and contributions to the e-news.**

### Aviation boom: Karnataka will have 13 airports

Plans for 13 airports in various stages. These will be Mangalore, Hubli, Belgaum, Mysore, Bidar, Karwar, Bellary, Gulbarga, Shimoga, Bijapur, Hassan, Raichur and Kushalnagar(Kodagu).

*Source: The Times of India*

### N u k e - c a p a b l e A g n i - I I I successfully test -fired



India on April 12 successfully test-fired its most sophisticated and strategically most important missile Agni III from the DRDO-run missile testing center located in the Wheelers

Island off the Dhamara coast in Orissa's Bhubaneswar district.

According to Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sources, the intermediate range ballistic missile which has the capability to carry both conventional as well as nuclear warheads was test-fired from launch pad number four of the premier missile testing center at around 10.52am. With this success, the country has acquired the much needed credible nuclear deterrent against potential adversaries like the China.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### It was a difficult orbit to achieve, hence premium charges

Antrix Corporation Limited, marketing agency of the Department of Space, charged \$29,000 a kg for putting into orbit the Italian satellite Agile using PSLV-C8, according to its executive director, K.R. Sridhara Murthi. The Agile satellite weighs 352kg.

While the international rates for launching a satellite ranged between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a kg, Antrix charged more because Agile had to be put into a specific orbit of about 550 km at a low inclination of 2.5 degrees to the equator, Mr.Sridhara Murthi said. This was a difficult orbit and inclination to achieve, and hence the premium rates.

*Source: The Hindu*

### DRDO to focus on ICBMs

After having successfully launched the nuclear-capable intermediate range ballistic missile, Agni-III, from the Wheeler Island off the coast of Orissa.

Scientists at the Defence Research and Development Organisation have set their sights on developing technical capability for an inter-continental ballistic missile over the next three years.

*Source: The Hindu*

### Aircraft maintenance facility in Hyderabad

Lufthansa Technik, the world's leading provider of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) for planes, components and engines, plans an MRO facility here to cater to the growing aviation sector in India. The facility will be located at the upcoming Hyderabad international airport at Shamshabad on the city outskirts. The group will invest Rs 1 billion (\$20 million) for a two-bay hangar and its state-of-the-art workshops. The facility, the first of its kind in India, will provide base maintenance services for narrow-body aircraft like Airbus A320 family and Boeing 737 aircraft, including 737 Classic and 737 NG. August W Henningsen, chairman of the executive board of Lufthansa Technik AG, told reporters here Friday that as the first international MRO provider to set up an Indian base, the firm has teamed up with the GMR Group, which is developing the Hyderabad international airport.

*Source: Vijay Times*

### Saras prototype takes to skies



The second prototype of the multi-role light transport aircraft, Saras, took to the skies. The PT-2 completed a flawless 49-minute maiden flight at 9,000ft. The aircraft,

being built by National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) Bangalore, is India's first indigenous civilian aircraft.

*Source: The Times of India*

### Mars mission likely in 2012: ISRO chief

India can launch a mission to Mars in 2012, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman G Madhavan Nair said. Talking to newsmen, he said the proposal for Mars mission was being looked into. If feasible, the mission could take place in 2012

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### A perfect flight

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of BrahMos Aerospace Limited, Sivathanu Pillai, said from Chandipur-on-sea that BrahMos was "a perfect flight and that it was a 100 percent success". It had a perfect textbook trajectory.

*Source: The Hindu*

### Agni ignites ICBM dreams

Buoyed by the success of the two-stage, defence scientists claimed that they intend to come out with a 5,000-km range Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) by 2010

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### Tejas LSP-1 makes maiden flight

The first Tejas Limited Series Production (LSP-1) made a successful maiden flight on April 25, 2007. Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) has reported. The flight covered an altitude upto 11km at a supersonic speed of 1.1 mach. During the flight envelope, all systems of the aircraft functioned perfectly well.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### Anti-missile system test in 4 months

Close on the heels of the success of the intermediate range ballistic missile Agni-III, defence scientists plan to carry out the second test of the indigenous missile defence system in another four months. "The second test of the interceptor is being planned by August-September. But this time it will be an endo-atmospheric test, in which the interceptor will destroy the enemy missile in lower atmosphere," said Dr M Natarajan, the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister and the director general of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Most of the Asian nations as well as rich European countries do not have their own missile defence systems. Actually, the test has been delayed by a couple of months as the project director, Dr V K Saraswat, had earlier claimed that the test would be conducted by March.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### AAI puts safety net in place

Once bitten, twice shy. Even as Air Sahara is sold to Jet and becomes another casualty in the highly-competitive aviation sector, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has set in place mechanisms to see it doesn't get signed. That's what happened a decade back when new airlines fell by the wayside, leaving behind huge liabilities for AAI. This time, AAI has been smarter —it has decided not to give credit to airlines. But if it has to, then AAI takes a security deposit from private airlines based on the projected billing of airlines for two months. "This deposit is more than the actual billing and bolsters our efforts to get back dues," says a source. The deposit is dependent on the schedules of airlines. AAI has a fortnightly billing with airlines and in case of consistent delay, takes up the issue with them. If airlines come with new schedules, routes and sectors, the security limit is increased.

*Source: The Times of India*

### ISRO Satellites for Europe

The Indian space agency will be constructing satellites for European telecom major Eutelsat as well as for a UK-based satellite communication company, Avanti Screen Media System. While the first deal was signed almost a year ago, the second one is a new one.

In both cases, the European companies will be providing the transponders while ISRO will make the satellite platform and assemble the satellite in Bangalore. Developed in collaboration with missile and satellite manufacturing company EADS, the Eutelsat satellite will be ready by 2008 while the other one is expected to be completed by 2009.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### HAL's sales turnover up by 41 percent

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) announced on Thursday that its sales turnover for the year 2006-07 has reached Rs 7,505 crore (\$1.75 billion), recording a growth of 41percent over the previous year. The company saw its profits (PBT) soaring to Rs 1,600 crore, a jump of 42 percent over the last year.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### ISRO will step up outsourcing, focus on R&D, says Nair

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will step up outsourcing of works related to satellite and rocket building to the private sector, which in the long run could churn out overall systems as the organisation focuses on research and development.

ISRO Chairman G Madhavan Nair expects the role of the private sector in Indian space programmes to grow over a period of time.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### NAL hoping to profitably market Hansa in Australia

In a bid to secure certification from the Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority for its two-seater trainer aircraft Hansa 3, National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) will seek the help of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology's Sir Lawrence Wackett Center for Aerospace Design Technology.

Australian certification, which could take between six months and eight months, is mandatory if NAL is to sell Hansa 3 in the Australian market.

*Source: The Hindu*

### Air Sahara is now Jetlite

Jet Airways, unveiled a new corporate identity and aircraft's livery (outside look) and also announced that it will rename its recently acquired Air Sahara as 'Jetlite' in keeping with its stated intention of running it as "low-fare" airline company.

*Source: Deccan Herald*

### Aircraft maintenance and repair set to become business

As a booming civil aviation sector further expands its wings in India with about 300 aircraft criss-crossing the country's vast airspace and more jetliners waiting to be delivered, aircraft manufacturers and aero engineering companies are eyeing the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) which India is underserved by aviation standards.

*Source: The Hindu*

### India, Russia To Jointly Manufacture Aviation Sector Components

In what has been dubbed as a "breakthrough deal," India and Russia have agreed to set up a joint venture to produce titanium dioxide, a key component for the strategic metal used in aerospace industry. "Russian Deputy Finance Minister Sergei Storchak and his Indian counterparts signed a breakthrough deal in Washington to invest the rupee portion of India's debt to the Soviet Union into a titanium dioxide production," Kommersant daily reported. Under the agreement, rupee debt equivalent of USD 126 million would be invested to build a plant in India with the annual capacity of 40,000 tonnes of titanium dioxide within the next three years in which Russia is to hold 55 per cent equity.

*Source: India Defence*

## India steps into satellite launch biz **BrahMos test Perfect, all objectives met**



PSLV-C8 successfully launched an Italian satellite from its spaceport at Sriharikota, marking the first commercial venture of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C8, in its 11th flight, put the 352 kg Italian astronomical satellite AGILE into a 550-km circular orbit, inclined at an angle of 2.5 deg to the equator, exactly 22 minutes after liftoff from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Center at 3:30 p.m. An Advanced Avionics Module (AAM), weighing 185 kg, to test advanced launch vehicle avionics systems like mission computers, navigation and telemetry systems, was also flown on PSLV-C8.

*Source: Deccan Herald*



The supersonic cruise missile, BrahMos, was test-fired from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur-on-sea. The test-firing of the missile, which has an advanced capability of sharp manoeuvring, took place at 11.21 am from launching complex three(LC-III), defence sources said.

*Source: The Times of India*

## Extreme Pilot Shortage-An Opportunity Unparalleled

For several decades Indian Civil Aviation has suffered from flawed regulatory and operational policies that were designed solely to keep competition away, The Govt did adopt an 'open sky' policy in 1991 but this proved to be relatively ineffective because the civil aviation environment then was not conducive for sustaining a high-quality competitive level. As a result, many startup airlines exited the industry within a short time, However, far-reaching reforms in the civil aviation sector aimed at making flying more affordable gathered momentum as 2004 came to a close. As the new Govt completed a year in office, a major change witnessed in this sector was the entry of Low-Cost Carriers (LCC), a feature unseen in the Indian aviation scene so far.

*Source: Prolog*

## IATA launches new aviation courses in India

IATA has launched new training courses in India through the Speedwings Academy for Aviation Services, Cochin, a leading IATA-authorized training centre based in Kochi. IATA officials said that new aviation related policies of the Government are set to result in an unprecedented demand for trained personnel in the airline and airport segments. "The Government of India's open policies towards modernisation and privatisation of airports in India and the trend to link the country's important towns and cities with a cluster of domestic flights, will all, naturally, result in an unprecedented demand for trained personnel in the airline and airport segments," said Peggy Esseldeurs, assistant director, IATA Training & Development Institute, Canada.

*Source: domain-B*

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For details contact :

Dr R Balasubramaniam  
Editor - e-news Editorial Team  
The Aeronautical Society of India  
Suranjandas Road  
New Thippasandra Post  
Bangalore - 560 075  
Telefax : 080 25273851  
Email : [editoraesi@dataone.in](mailto:editoraesi@dataone.in) or [aerospacejournal@vsnl.net](mailto:aerospacejournal@vsnl.net)



THIS IS N'T AN AIRCRAFT SIGNAL, I'M JUST WAVING GOOD BYE TO THE PASSENGERS!



By the time they left for Kitty Hawk, the Wright Brothers had already discarded quite a few designs they considered impractical