

January - April 2023

# GREEN PORT

Cochin International Airport Ltd. Magazine

## CIAL UNVEILS ITS LATEST ENDEAVOURS



GREEN  PORT  
Cochin International Airport Ltd. Magazine

Volume 9, Issue -25



Team CIAL @ TCS Fit 4Life Run 2023





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## MD'S NOTE

As I reflect upon my journey as the Managing Director of Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) for the past two years, I am happy for the steadfast support and commitment that all of you have demonstrated. Your dedication has been pivotal in

propelling our organization to new heights. I strongly believe in the power of participative management, and have actively sought to foster an environment where each one of you is engaged and involved in the decision-making processes. Through this, we have embraced the concept of delegation of work, ensuring that everyone plays a vital role in our collective success. I am really happy about the implementation of our employee engagement program, which has established five major focus

forums. These forums not only enhance our team building activities but also serve as platforms for nurturing your personal interests and creative endeavors. By embracing collaboration and actively involving each one of you, we are creating an atmosphere where your sensible demands are met, and your contributions are valued.

The challenges posed by the global pandemic were substantial, as we witnessed a significant decline in traffic volume from 10 million to 2.5 million during the fiscal year 2020-21. However, we rallied together as a team, showcasing our resilience and determination. Through our collective efforts, we successfully revamped our systems and operations, leading to a remarkable turnaround. In the fiscal year 2021-22, we achieved a profit of Rs. 37 crores. As we set our sights on the future, we aim to accomplish even greater milestones in the fiscal year 2022-23. With the traffic volume reaching an impressive 89.21 lakhs, we are poised for exponential growth. As we complete the account closure, I am confident that we will surpass all previous records and achieve the highest profit in the history of CIAL. Our team is tirelessly working towards securing our position in the prestigious 1000 Crore Club during the current fiscal year.

We are gradually returning to normalcy, with airlines resuming operations to new destinations. As we navigate towards our new goals, let us not overlook the happiness and satisfaction of our valued employees. Your hard work, dedication, and positive spirit have been instrumental in our collective achievements. I encourage you to continue striving for excellence in all that you do. Together, we will continue to innovate, lead, and shape the future of CIAL, setting new benchmarks and reaching unprecedented heights.



Thank You !  
S.Suhas IAS

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The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of Cochin International Airport Ltd. (For private circulation only).





# CIAL UNVEILS ITS LATEST ENDEAVOURS

CIAL proudly showcased the latest milestones and achievements of its maintenance, electrical, security, and civil departments during a grand unveiling ceremony. The auspicious event, graced by esteemed dignitaries including Shri. P. Rajeeve, Minister for Industries, Law & Coir, Shri. Anwar Sadath MLA, and Roji M John MLA, took place on 21st May 2023, Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Hangar area, CIASL. The welcome speech was delivered by Shri. S

Suhas IAS, MD, CIAL. The presence of Shri. N.V. George, Director of CIAL, added to the grandeur of the occasion. The distinguished M/s. Airworks Managing Director Shri. Anand Bhaskar spoke about the successful collaboration of both companies on the occasion. Expressing gratitude, Shri. Santhosh J. Poovattil, MD of CIASL, eloquently proposed the vote of thanks, marking the culmination of a momentous event.

## Automated door facility for MRO

CIASL has two hangar facilities in the MRO. Hangar 1 is now fitted with a newly vertically lifting fabric door/hoist-up door with three leaves and two movable mullion systems. The clear width of the door is 49000 mm, and the Clear height is

second minimum under all design conditions. The complete facility will open/close in 160 seconds.

The project cost of this facility is Rs 3.10 crores.

## Completion of first foreign carrier repaired at CIASL - Airworks MRO

CIASL has constructed the maintenance, repair and overall facility at Cochin airport and has entrusted the operations of MRO with M/s. Airworks for a while. The Airworks has successfully discharged the repair works of various domestic aircraft through this MRO facility. During the last financial year, around 100 aircraft got repaired through this facility.

In the history of Cochin MRO, we have now completed the repairs of a foreign carrier 'flynas', operating from Saudi Arabia, at

our facility. This is a low-cost carrier operating from Saudi Arabia. They sent the flight on the 15th of May 2023 and the repair is now completed. This will be discharged on 21st of May 2023, and the completion certificate will be handed over by Hon'ble Minister Shri. P. Rajeeve to Shri. Hameed, Maintenance Manager, 'flynas'. Apart from this, they will be sending another 5 flights to our MRO which will be repaired at our facility. 'flynas' is the first foreign aircraft to be repaired at CIASL – Airworks MRO facility at Kochi airport.

## Bullet Resistant Vehicle (BRV)

CIAL procures Bullet Resistant Vehicle (BRV) for enhanced security measures.

The 'Mahindra Marksman 1.4 Bullet Resistant Vehicle' is designed to provide enhanced protection to airport personnel and visitors in case of any unforeseen incidents. The new bullet-resistant vehicle is equipped with latter-day technology that includes armored steel body, bullet resistant glasses, reinforced tubeless tyres, and state-of-the-art communication systems. Marksman 1.4 4WD has protection against sophisticated weapons on its body. It can withstand high-velocity impacts and bullets, thereby providing exceptional protection to the occupants inside. The seating capacity includes five fully equipped personnels along with



the driver, with a payload capacity of 600 kgs. This high security, ballistic protected, armour plated vehicle is manufactured by Mahindra Defence Systems Ltd., near Faridabad, Haryana. The same company is in charge of manufacturing bullet

facilitate the smooth flow of water and ensure the road's structural integrity. The total construction cost of this project is 4.51 crores.

## New airport approach road from Kalady

The construction of a 250-meter long, 4-lane approach road, connecting Kariyad-Mattoor road is a well-designed road expansion project that improves the transportation infrastructure for the benefit of the locale. This investment underscores CIAL's dedication in creating convenient travel routes. The new approach road will not only reduce congestion but also enhance safety by providing smooth traffic flow. The total cost of the construction is 2.61 crores.

## Upgraded lighting system for Apron 1

There are 16 aircraft parking bays in Apron 1 of CIAL and these are illuminated with 11 highmasts abeam the parking bays. The light fittings used in these highmasts were conventional 400 watts HPSV fittings and it was getting phased out by the manufacturers. We have now replaced them with Signify (Philips) to make energy



efficient LED fittings. The connected load for these 11 highmasts reduced from 110 KW to 45 KW which accounts for considerable power saving and increase in life of the fittings and associated electrical switch gears. The energy savings per year is Rs.20.50 lakhs. The new Apron 1 flood lighting high mast design meets the specified lux levels with asymmetric light beam properties which reduces glare considerably. The upward light ratio is < 5%. The CCT is > 5700K. The CRI is > 70, so the colours used for aircraft markings can be correctly identified. The total Project cost is Rs.70 Lakhs. The work was done by M/s. Midas Electricals Pvt Ltd, Chennai.



13400 mm. The Mullion width is 10300mm on the sides. The design of the door is vetted by IIT Madras. The project was undertaken by M/s Nivah and their scope includes the entire Civil, Electrical, and mechanical installation of the door and related activities.

The following standards and codes have been observed. CEN, TUV certification, DIN, BS and ASTM norms. The door must open fully at a speed of 0.2 meters per



resistant vehicles for our army and other paramilitary forces. The total cost of this vehicle is approximately Rs. 58,25,680.

## Service Road from CIAL Golf to Athani

The construction of a service road from CIAL Golf Course to Athani will greatly enhance the connectivity and accessibility in the area. Spanning an impressive length of 1200 meters, the road will measure 3.6 meters in width, providing ample space for smooth vehicular movement. Notably, the road will also feature a well-designed stormwater drain, measuring 2.4 m / 1 m / 0.75 m, to efficiently manage water runoff and prevent flooding. Additionally, the inclusion of 4 culverts will further





# സർക്കാരിന്റെ വ്യവസായനയം വ്യോമയാന മേഖലയിൽ കൂടുതൽ തൊഴിൽ സൃഷ്ടിക്കും: പി.രാജീവ്

സംസ്ഥാന സർക്കാരിന്റെ പുതിയ വ്യവസായ നയം വ്യോമയാന-അനുബന്ധ മേഖലയിൽ കൂടുതൽ തൊഴിലവസരങ്ങൾ സൃഷ്ടിക്കുമെന്ന് മന്ത്രി പി.രാജീവ് പറഞ്ഞു. കൊച്ചി അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര വിമാനത്താവള ലിമിറ്റഡിന്റെ (സിയാൽ) ആറ് പുതിയ സംരംഭങ്ങൾക്ക് തുടക്കം കുറിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള സമ്മേളനം ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുകയായിരുന്നു മന്ത്രി.

സിയാലിന്റെ ഉപകമ്പനിയായ കൊച്ചിൻ ഇന്റർനാഷണൽ ഏവിയേഷൻ സർവീസസ് ലിമിറ്റഡിന്റെ വിമാന അറകുറുപ്പണി ഹാംഗറിൽ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ ആധുനിക സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള പദ്ധതികളുടെ ഉദ്ഘാടനമാണ് നടന്നത്. സർക്കാരിന്റെ പുതിയ വ്യവസായ നയത്തിൽ 22 മുൻഗണനാ മേഖലകളെ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. വ്യോമയാന അനുബന്ധ സൗകര്യവികസനം അതിൽപ്പെടും. സി.ഐ.എസ്.എൽ ഹാംഗറിന്റെ നടത്തിപ്പ് ചുമതലയുള്ള എയർവർക്സ് ലിമിറ്റഡ്

തങ്ങൾക്ക് ദക്ഷിണേഷ്യയിൽ തന്നെയുള്ള ഏറ്റവും മികച്ച വിമാന അറകുറുപ്പണി കേന്ദ്രമാണ് സിയാലിലേത് എന്ന് അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ തന്നെ മൂന്നുറോളം പേർ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നു. സർക്കാരിന്റെ വ്യവസായ നയത്തിൽ ഇത്തരം മേഖലകളെക്കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. “കൂടുതൽ തൊഴിലവസരങ്ങൾ കേരളത്തിൽ സൃഷ്ടിക്കപ്പെടാൻ ഇത് ഉപകരിക്കുമെന്ന് കരുതുന്നു”-മന്ത്രി പറഞ്ഞു.

ഹാംഗറിന്റെ ഓട്ടോമാറ്റിക് ഡോർ സംവിധാനം, കൊച്ചി വിമാനത്താവളത്തിന്റെ സുരക്ഷാ സംവിധാനം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി വാങ്ങിയ ബുള്ളറ്റ് റെസിസ്റ്റന്റ് വെഹിക്കൾ, ഏപ്രണിലെ പുതിയ ലൈറ്റിങ്ങ് സംവിധാനം എന്നിവയും മന്ത്രി ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. ഹാംഗറിൽ അറകുറുപ്പണി പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ ആദ്യ വിദേശ വിമാനത്തിന്റെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് മന്ത്രിയിൽ നിന്ന് സൗദി അറേബ്യൻ

എയർലൈൻ ആയ ഫ്ളൈനാസിന്റെ മെയിന്റനൻസ് മാനേജർ ഹമീദ് ഹുസൈൻ ഏറ്റുവാങ്ങി. വിമാനത്താവളത്തിലേയ്ക്കുള്ള പ്രധാന റോഡിന് സമാന്തരമായി നിർമിച്ച സർവീസ് റോഡ് ആലുവ എം.എൽ.എ അൻവർ സാദത്ത് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു. കാലടി ഭാഗത്ത് നിന്ന് വരുന്ന യാത്രക്കാർക്ക് എളുപ്പത്തിൽ വിമാനത്താവളത്തിലേയ്ക്ക് എത്താൻ പണികഴിപ്പിച്ച റോഡ് അങ്കമാലി എം.എൽ.എ റോജി എം.ജോൺ ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്തു.

സിയാൽ മാനേജിങ് ഡയറക്ടർ എസ്.സുഹാസ് ഐ.എ.എസ് സ്വാഗതം പറഞ്ഞു. സിയാൽ ഡയറക്ടർ എൻ.വി. ജോർജ്ജ് സി.ഐ.എ.എസ്.എൽ മാനേജിങ് ഡയറക്ടർ, സന്തോഷ് ജെ.പൂവട്ടിൽ, എയർവർക്സ് മാനേജിങ് ഡയറക്ടർ ആനന്ദ് ഭാസ്കർ തുടങ്ങിയവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു.





# സിയാലിൽ റിപ്പബ്ലിക് ദിനാഘോഷം

കൊച്ചി അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര വിമാനത്താവളത്തിൽ രാജ്യത്തെ 74ാം റിപ്പബ്ലിക് ദിനാഘോഷങ്ങൾ നടന്നു. സിയാൽ മാനേജിങ് ഡയറക്ടർ എസ്. സുഹാസ് ഐ.എ.എസ്. ദേശീയപതാകയുയർത്തി.

സിയാൽ അഗ്നിശമന സേനാവിഭാഗമായ എ.ആർ.എഫ്.എഫിന്റെ ഒരു പ്ലാറ്റുണും വിമാനത്താവള സുരക്ഷാവിഭാഗമായ സി.ഐ.എസ്.എഫിന്റെ രണ്ട് പ്ലാറ്റുണുകളും പരേഡിൽ അണിനിരന്നു. ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ നീരജ് റായ് ആയിരുന്നു പരേഡ് കമാൻഡർ. സബ് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ അനിലിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ സി.ഐ.എസ്.എഫ് ഡോഗ് സ്ക്വാഡിന്റെ അഭ്യൂഹപ്രദർശനങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു.

സി.ഐ.എസ്.എഫ് സീനിയർ കമാൻഡന്റ് സുനീൽ ശർമ്മ, ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി കമാൻഡന്റ് മാരായ പ്രൊ എം.ജെ., ടി. ഡി. വിൻസെന്റ്, എയർപോർട്ട് ഡയറക്ടർ ദിനേശ് കുമാർ സി., എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് ഡയറക്ടർ സജി. കെ. ജോർജ് തുടങ്ങിയവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു.





## CIAL DUTYFREE HANDS OVER THE KEY TO THE WINNER OF THE 'SOLEN CHOCOLATE' MEGA PROMOTION



CIAL Dutyfree and Retail Services Limited (CDRSL), a subsidiary of Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL), in association with Solen Chocolate and Alpha-Kreol (India) Private Limited, handed over the key of their 'Solen Chocolate Mega Promotion' which was conducted from November 1st, 2022 to February 28th, 2023. Mr. Kusan M.K. emerged as the lucky winner of the mega prize, a brand new Royal Enfield Continental GT 650 bike. The key to his brand new bike was handed over to his wife, Mrs. Anitha Kusan by CIAL MD, Mr. S. Suhas IAS, at a grand ceremony organized by CDRSL. The ceremony was attended by distinguished guests, including, CDRSL MD, Mr. Saji K. George, Mr. Saji Daniel, CFO, CIAL, Mr. Manu G., Airport Director (In-charge), and Mr. Lenny Sebastian, CFO, CDRSL.

## CIAL DUTYFREE HANDS OVER THE KEY TO THE WINNER OF THE SALES MEGA PROMOTION 2022



Cochin Duty Free Mega Promotion prize distribution ceremony as a part of sales promotion scheme conducted for passengers who purchased duty free items from 1st August to 31st December 2022. The winner, M/s. Lovely Varghese, received the key of the mega prize, a Skoda Kushaq car from Mr. S. Suhas IAS, Managing Director, CIAL. Mr. Saji. K George, Executive Director, CIAL, Mr. Jacob T. Abraham, Head, Duty Free Operations, Mr. Vijesh kumar T.G, Deputy Commissioner, Customs and other senior officials of CIAL were also present at the function.



# ARFF Fire Training for students

The CIAL ARFF team recently organized a fire training session for school students. The interactive training aimed to educate students about fire safety measures and equip them with essential knowledge to respond effectively in emergency situations, fostering a safer environment within educational institutions.





# Thumping response from investors

## CIAL collected Rs.478 Cr through the rights share issue

CIAL has accorded another thumping response from its huge investor base with the majority of them have opted for the rights issue plan offered by the company to mobilize resources for infrastructure development. The whopping response from the investors has helped CIAL to collect Rs.478.21 Cr. which will be utilized for funding the already announced projects including the expansion of the International Terminal; T3. Before the rights issue scheme has been announced, CIAL's total share volume was 380 million shares owned by 22,000 investors from 25 countries. Being an unlisted company, CIAL can issue rights shares under Section 62(1) of the Companies Act for raising additional capital. The board of directors had earlier approved to issue 9,56,43,687 equity shares at Rs. 50 per equity share (including a premium of Rs. 40 per share) aggregating to Rs. 478,21,84,350 to the existing shareholders of the CIAL in the ratio 1:4 ( ie; one right share for the 4 existing shares). The majority of the shareholders applied and paid for the right shares as they have shown great interest in the development projects that the

management is currently implementing and intends to implement in the future. The state government is the largest investor in CIAL. It owns a 32.42% stake. The government now invested Rs.178.09 crores in the rights share scheme and subscribed additional 3.56 crores shares. With this, the total share of the government has increased to 33.38%.

CIAL has received a total of Rs. 564 crore from investors whereas 478.21 crore of which could be collected as per norms. The remaining Rs. 86 crore was returned to the shareholders. 10.79% of the shares fell into the 'unsubscribed' category as only those holding a de-mat account are eligible for the right shares. Such shares were re-allotted to the existing eligible shareholders in proportion to their holdings as per the terms already announced. For this, the State Government has provided an additional Rs 23 crore (included in the amount mentioned earlier). Since the Companies act-2013 mandated the use of demat account from the prescribed time schedule, CIAL had requested the shareholders to dematerialize the shares

way back in 2019 and many a time intimation about the process had been sent officially to their registered contact tools. The number and percentage of shares held by all the investors of CIAL including the State Government has increased proportionately after the right share was made available. In the last year and a half, CIAL has inaugurated three mega projects. These are Payyannur and Aripara Power Projects and Business Jet Terminal. Talking to the press, Managing Director S. Suhas IAS said that the fund received through the issuance of the rights shares will be used for the projects which will be implemented soon. " CIAL has earmarked five big projects for the coming years. The main one is the expansion of International Terminal T-3; Projects like constructing an export-cargo terminal and transit accommodation facility also need to be completed on time. The Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Board of Directors have prepared a clear outline for these projects " Suhas added.

All the right shares issued have been credited to the Demat account of the shareholders as on 5th May 2023.





Fly to

# VIETNAM

Direct from

# KOCHI



CIAL schedules direct flights operated by VIETJET to Ho Chi Minh City from August 12



**COK**  **SGN**

SECTOR		FLIGHT NO.	DEP (LT)	ARR (LT)	FREQ
SGN	COK	VJ1811	19:20	22:50	MON, WED, FRI, SAT
COK	SGN	VJ1812	23:50	06:40	MON, WED, FRI, SAT





# G20 Delegates get a rousing reception at CIAL's Classy Business Jet Terminal

Honouring the opportunity to become a part of the prestigious G20 Summit India 2023, Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL), in an event, proudly welcomed the delegates of G20 Summit 2023. The members belong to the Group 3 category constituting prominent figures and also independent civilians who are experts in the fields of science and academia. The delegates were greeted with traditional cultural art forms of Kerala, performed by various artists, at the new exquisite Business Jet Terminal (T2) of Cochin International Airport. The delegates were requested to unwind and rest in the





luxurious lounges of the business jet terminal following which they were ferried to Bangaram islands in Lakshadweep via a chartered flight operated by Alliance Air.

The delegates were invited to the 'SCIENCE20 THEMATIC CONFERENCE ON UNIVERSAL HOLISTIC HEALTH' happenend on the 1st and 2nd of May, a two-day seminar on the topic - Universal Holistic Health- an event for the delegates to share their knowledge and expertise on contemporary holistic health practices. Meanwhile, the recently launched jet terminal is receiving an overwhelmingly positive response, and has accomplished a significant achievement of more than 380+ flight arrivals since its inauguration on December 10th, 2022. CIAL expects to receive an average of 1000 business jets with an average of 5 landings per day in the coming year.



## CIAL announces Summer Schedule!

- **Weekly 1484 services**
- **Commencing new sector- Ras-Al-Khaimah**
- **An average of 5 daily flights to Kuala-Lumpur (COK-KUL).**
- **Air India will operate UK flights from London (Gatwick)**
- **Additional daily flights to Malé, Riyadh, Dammam, Bahrain, Mumbai, Bangalore & Hyderabad**





## AWARDS



Mr. P.S. Jayan, SM, Corporate Communications, CIAL, receiving the 'Felicitation as a Sustainability Hero from India' on behalf of Mr. S. Suhas IAS, MD, CIAL, on the occasion of Sustainable is Attainable Festival organized by News18, in partnership with Tata Power, India's largest integrated power company on the 17th of May at Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi. CIAL was awarded the same for the incredible work by being the first green airport in the world and a champion in India's energy transition journey.



Head HR Jayarajan V., P.S. Jayan, SM, Corporate Communications, receiving KMA Excellence Award Best In-House Magazine (Special Jury).



## CIAL ARFF @ Brahmapuram

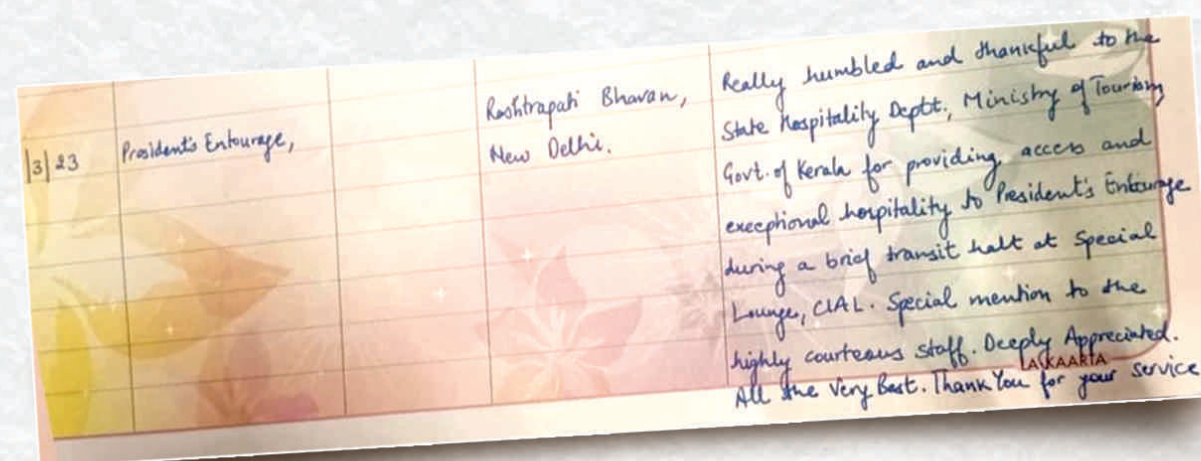
CIAL ARFF members displayed exceptional dedication and courage during their active involvement in the Brahmapuram fire incident, rendering invaluable service to the society. Their swift response and effective firefighting strategies played a crucial role in controlling the fire and minimizing its impact on the surrounding areas. These highly skilled experts displayed their proficiency in managing risky situations, guaranteeing the protection of both people and property. Their unselfish dedication to duty and never-ending efforts epitomise their honourable contribution to the community, garnering them a great deal of gratitude and respect.







# HOSPITALITY THAT LEAVES A LASTING IMPRESSION!



**Thank You, Hon'ble President of India.  
Much obliged by the words of appreciation  
from the president's entourage. It truly inspires us!**

- Team CIAL



← Tweet



**Amitabh Kant**  
@amitabhk87

The welcome @CIAL and the interestingly designed and aptly worded installations on the way to Kumarakom made an impression on the Sherpas and delegates attending the 2nd G20 Sherpa Meet. The flags at Thanneermukkam bridge looked beautiful. Well done, Kerala.



7:18 PM · Apr 2, 2023 · 10.3K Views

12 Retweets 4 Quotes 103 Likes





# Cochin Airport's hotel project gets an impetus; It's going to be TAJ CIAL

## IHCL to invest Rs. 100 Cr. in Cochin Airport's 5-star hotel

Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)'s ambitious 5-star hotel project gets a shot in the arm this week, after spending years to finalise the formalities of finding out a renowned operator. TATA group's

Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL), which owns the iconic luxury hotel brand 'Taj' will be operating CIAL's five-star hotel at Kochi airport premises. CIAL constructed the 112 key hotel ideally

located near the airport entrance as part of its land utilization program and also to provide the passengers with hospitality services at par with international standards. Taj CIAL at Cochin Airport is



expected to be launched by mid of 2024. CIAL has awarded the contract to IHCL which envisages an investment of Rs.100 crores by IHCL for standardization of its interiors as per their brand's grades and measures. CIAL has completed the civil, MEP and allied works of the hotel which will be handed over to IHCL soon for the development of the interiors. As per the contract IHCL will share a percentage of the gross revenue generated from its operation with CIAL. Commenting on the partnership, Managing Director, CIAL Mr. S. Suhas IAS said that CIAL's collaboration with IHCL will give a fillip to the airport operator's development plan which envisages integration of aviation with the tourism and hospitality sectors. "We are looking forward to this association. As the Taj group is one of the renowned luxury

hotel operators in the world, we hope that this collaboration will give spur to our plan to increase the revenue from non-aero verticals. CIAL is eyeing exponential growth in air traffic movement with the introduction of the new fleet of aircraft by Tata-owned Air India. We are sure that, this agreement will enhance the scope for a more meaningful association with one of the biggest airlines in the world": added Suhas. He attributed the success of CIAL's ambitious hotel project's bidding process to the guidance given by Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala & Chairman, CIAL and the Board of the Directors. The Taj Group informed that the project would become one of the most luxurious properties in Kerala. Presently they have almost 20 properties operating and upcoming in Kerala and this

project is going to be 5th in Kochi, and the third largest. CIAL's star hotel project is going to be a 112 key 5-star hotel spreading across 4 acres of land very next to the airport entrance, occupying a building footprint of 2.04 lakh sq. ft. This is planned as a 'Basement+ Ground+ 6 floor structure with a Terrace floor' having a speciality restaurant, service bar etc. The hotel is located opposite the Cochin International Airport boasts an uninterrupted view of the airport on one side and the mountains on the other. Owing to this monopoly, the planning is done to host rooms on either side. Other features of this project include a 440 sqm banquet hall, two oardrooms and a terrace dining area offering a panoramic view of the airport.





# CIAL's Explosives Cooling Pit Inaugurated by Minister Shri. P Rajeeve and Minister Shri. K Rajan

CIAL's cooling pit is a latest addition to our world-class aviation security measures. This cutting-edge facility utilizes the latest cooling technology to maintain the stability of explosive materials, even in extreme temperatures. With the installation of this facility, we can ensure that any explosive materials in transit are handled in the safest manner possible. Shri. Anwar Sadath MLA, Shri. Benny Behanan MP, Shri. S Suhas IAS, MD, CIAL, Shri. Rajendran T., DGM, Civil and other HOD's attended the function.



# Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia visited Kochi Airport as CIAL successfully completed Digi Yathra trial phase I

The implementation of the same will enable the E-gate at the first level security points. This system will facilitate the passengers' entry to the terminal by showing their bar-coded boarding pass at the kiosks. Software for the E- boarding pass system has been developed in-house by the CIAL's IT department. Expressing his appreciation for the general upkeep of the Kochi airport, its cleanliness and the adoption of technology Mr Scindia has said that airports in the country should adopt digital interfaces at all passenger touchpoints to ensure a better experience for the passengers.





## CIAL Women's Day Celebrations

CIAL celebrated this year's International Women's Day in a unique way. 'Choolala' coasters, the brand of multipurpose coasters designed by Ms. Lakshmi Menon, a designer and also the winner of the Best Entrepreneur award by the government of Kerala, were presented to CIAL employees as part of the Women's Day celebrations. What makes this brand special is that the coasters are created by the members of the Kerala Federation of the Blind Rehabilitation Centre for Women. Ms. Lakshmi Menon, the founder of 'Pure Living' initiative works

toward finding sustainable livelihood solutions, and believes that the visible imperfections that you could identify in the weave of the coasters are indeed the beauty of them- 'the irregularity is the beauty'. These coasters can also be used as brooches, table mats, tea coasters, and ornaments. This initiative of CIAL aims at true women empowerment. CIAL hopes this deed helps and encourages the women achievers of 'Choolala' extremely, in their paths towards establishment as a successful global brand.



## The new VISTARA connection!

VISTARA commences a new sector from Kochi, introducing daily flights to Mumbai.

**COK** ↔ **BOM**

CIAL assures seamless travel to Mumbai with a luxury of 9 daily flights from Kochi.



# The All new Innova Hycross

Innova – This is a name in the Indian Vehicle market which has been unchallenged for close to two decades now. The first-gen Innova was launched in the year 2005, replacing the mighty Qualis. It became an instant hit, and the name was synonymous to reliability. It was the car that gave wide acceptance to the brand Toyota among Indians. It is unlikely that there is any other car which has remained unchallenged for such a long period. The first major generation change came after 11 years of its launch, when the Toyota launched Innova crista in 2016. 7 years after the launch of crista , now Toyota has now come up with the next major generation change with the launch of Innova Hycross by end of Dec 2022.

In this episode we managed a test drive of the Hybrid model of Hycross.

## Exterior

The major change in here is the body type. The hycross is a monocoque construction, whereas all the previous generations of Innovas are Body-on-Frame construction. This would reduce the body roll by a major extent. The hycross has a very proportional and balanced construction for an MPV. The design is quite different from all the other Innova models, giving it an identity of its own. We find the design to be fresh and imposing a good road presence. Dimension wise, the Hycross is marginally bigger than Crysta in all aspect except height. The most significant improvement here is in the wheelbase, which transforms to spacious interiors. On the top variant, the wheel size is 18 inch, with lower profile tyres. Higher profile tyres would have improved the ride quality as well as the appearance.



## Interior

Toyota has given a premium look and feel to the Hycross with dual tone interiors, leather finish dashboard and good quality plastics. The gear shifter is mounted on the centre fascia which improves the

ergonomics for the driver. Paddle shifters have also been provided. The driver seats come with electrical adjustment and memory function. Both the front seats are ventilated and comes with usable centre armrest and door pad armrests. The panoramic sunroof is a very welcome

DIMENSION COMPARISON		
	HYCROSS	CRYSTA
Length (mm)	4755	4735
Width (mm)	1845	1830
Height (mm)	1785	1795
Wheelbase (mm)	2850	2750

Text & Snaps :



Jacob Babu



Vishnu Vasudev



Engine2L	Petrol hybrid	2L Petrol
Max Power	184 bhp	173 bhp
Max Torque	206 Nm	188 Nm
ARAI Fuel Efficiency	23.4 Km/L	16.1 Km/L

addition, which provides an airy feel to the cabin. As expected of a car from this class, Hycross comes with a 10.1-inch touchscreen infotainment system which supports Apple car play and Android auto. The second-row seats are really a vast improvement from the previous generations. The ottoman seats in the middle row come with individual folding armrests and adjustable leg space. If the third row is not used, the second-row seats can be reclined and the ottoman (leg support) can be raised to form a bed, offering a very cozy ride.

The third row of seats can be accessed by sliding the second-row seats forward. Though getting into the third row takes some effort, it is very usable unlike the previous generations. They are placed at a decent height. There is adequate Knee room and headroom with reclinable backrest for third-row adults. Two adults or 3 children will fit in comfortably in the third row. This makes the Innova Hycross a proper 7-seater.

## Engine and Driving

Toyota offers two engine options for the Hycross, a 2.0L petrol engine and the hybrid version of the same engine where it is combined to an electric motor powered by a 1.7kWh battery. There is no diesel engine option for the Hycross.

Our test drive vehicle was the hybrid version. The engine is very silent and

refined at par with an electric car. The presence of electric motor ensures a very strong low-end torque, which pulls the car forward even without any accelerator input, which makes it a breeze to drive in the city traffic conditions. The petrol engine powers up only when extra acceleration is required or when the battery charge is below a certain level. The car runs purely on electric power in low speeds (below 40 kmph). When extra power is required, the petrol engine fires up and gives that extra juice. The hybrid package is very powerful making the overtaking on highways an easy affair. The Hycross can reach and maintain three-digit speeds effortlessly. Even at those speeds and the cabin feels super silent. The intelligent CVT Transmission makes the gearshifts without any lag and the occupants will not feel the gear shifts.

There are 4 drive modes – EV, Eco, Normal and Power mode. The pure EV mode can be used at low speeds where the petrol engine will not power up. However, this mode can be used only in low speeds. If the speed exceeds 40kmph, the vehicle switches back to hybrid mode.

The Normal mode is the default mode which is in between the Eco and Power modes. It offers a good balance between efficiency and performance. In Eco mode, the petrol engine doesn't come on as easily. The response is slow, and it tries to keep the petrol engine only charging the battery and not sending power to the

wheels unless the accelerator is pressed very firmly. This mode is useful for extracting maximum fuel efficiency. In Power mode, the petrol engine comes alive even with light throttle input. The Throttle response is much faster, and impacts fuel efficiency the most.

## Our Impressions

The Innova has been the uncrowned king of the MPV segment for almost two decades now. Many competitors had emerged in this long period to challenge this mighty Toyota, but most of them has vanished without a trace. This time too, the Toyota has stepped up the game with the introduction of hybrid technology and more premium interiors giving little room for the competitors. Innova Hycross will be the first choice in the segment and will remain the king of the segment for decades to come. The unusually long waiting periods, extending up to 18 months back up this.





# DIGITALISATION OF MONETARY TRANSACTIONS - THE INDIAN CONTEXT

Remember being told by parents that you need to carry sufficient physical cash with you while traveling to a particular destination? The impression thrust upon us then was to carry currency at separate locations (pockets, purse, baggage, etc.) - the idea being to safeguard your basic requirements if you get pickpocketed or in case you lost money from any of the secured places. Physical currency was considered such an important asset then. Contemplating traveling to a different destination without physical currency would have been just unthinkable. It would be more or less akin to the “fish out of water scenario”. Until the end of the previous Century, physical cash transactions were the de facto means of transfer of currency from one entity to another - be it person to person or person to merchant. The Raison d’etre for digital transactions would’ve found few takers then. Fast forward by 2 decades & the scenario has transformed considerably now. Digital transactions have more or less become the norm rather than a viable option.

Breakthrough modes of digital payments have made it easy & convenient in connection with different modes of payment – notably the Bharat Interface for Money - Unified Payments Interface (BHIM - UPI) & Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), among others. Of special mention would be the National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) - a program managed by



Kamalesh Patel  
AGM, Electrical



Paulson Abraham  
JM, Operations

the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). This method utilizes a FASTag device that employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology in order to make toll payments directly from the prepaid account linked to it. The popularity gained by the plethora of digital payment options including Google Pay, Pay TM, Cred App, etc have increased manifold over the years resulting in substantially increased digital deals.

The total number of digital payment transactions undertaken during the last few financial years in India has gone up from a decent 2071 Crore in 2017-18 to a whopping 8840 Crore in 2021-22 (source : RBI, NPCI and banks). As per the Hindustan Times, in December 2022, India accounted for more digital transactions than the sum total of digital transactions in US, UK, Germany and France. This represents the rapid strides made by India in the quest for digitalisation & the continued effort to

improve digital transaction services in the country. Accessing bank accounts by the click of a button with a mouse or on the mobile, which would have sounded like sheer magic in the not so distant past is now a proven reality which is exercised on a regular basis by the concerned beneficiary. Also, the

fact that accounts can be accessed or payments can be executed anytime & from any location adds to the sheen of digitalisation. Better customer satisfaction & experience coupled with greater efficiency in tackling transactions has resulted in wider acceptance & also a greater degree of trust in the accuracy & effectiveness of the digital framework. Proper maintenance & retrieval of data enables customers to track every transaction, irrespective of the number & volume of transactions. Digital transactions in India got a notable boost with the advent of the Digital India campaign launched by the Government of India in 2015 with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The central idea of the campaign is all about “Faceless, Paperless, Cashless” transactions. The salient features of the Digital India campaign include digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen, governance & services on demand & also the digital empowerment of citizens. The plan to mobilise high speed internet networks in order to connect rural parts of the country are particularly noteworthy. This would entail the need to make the nation digitally empowered by technological advancement with better, faster & more reliable internet connectivity, which essentially indicate a requirement to revamp the online infrastructure as well. As part of promoting cashless transactions and converting India into a less-cash society, various modes of digital

payments are available. Internet Banking & Mobile Banking have gained a lot of prominence among all sections of society owing to the ease of access & convenience of handling them from any remote location. Crowded ATMs are tending to become a thing of the past as there’s less desperation to possess physical cash in hand. Payment by cheque too has become an obsolete concept now & not many people even possess a cheque book these days.

During the peak of the COVID 19 pandemic, the preference to use contactless modes of digital transactions was a de facto no brainer. The pros of digitalization are pretty obvious in the sense that things are a lot easier to handle when compared to the often cumbersome & complicated procedure adhered to otherwise. At the perch of the list of cons would be the numerous fraud transactions that are carried out, not to mention the various scams that have resulted in people losing out on their hard earned income owing to the nefarious designs carried out by people seeking the slightest of an opportunity at being deceptive. The concept of digitalization is thus, essentially a two edged sword which needs to be handled with care. The mention of the cons alone would however not suffice to put the notion of digitalization on the back burner. The effects of the pros would comfortably overshadow the cons once proper precautions are prioritized.

*The following quotes are pointers towards the potential that digitalization has in store for us in the foreseeable future:*

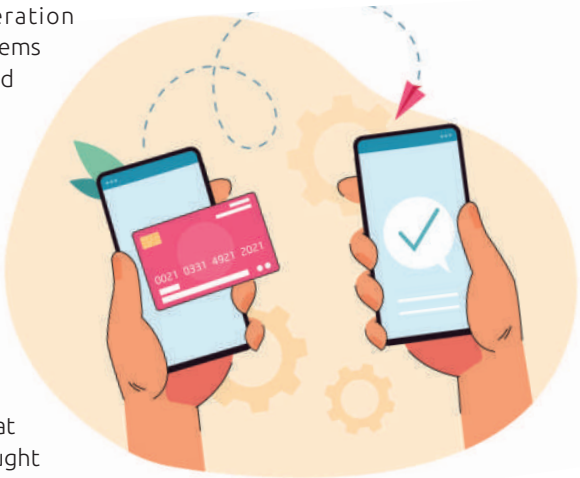
<i>“The biggest part of our digital transformation is changing the way we think”</i>	<i>“It’s no longer the big beating the small , but the fast beating the slow”</i>	<i>“Automation applied to an inefficient operation will magnify the inefficiency”</i>
Simeon Preston	Eric Pearson	Bill Gates

The emphasis in the above quotes is clearly on the need to shift from the manual format to the digital format in the years to come by. Of course, there will be resistance to change at various levels, but

then the concept of “Change Management” is there for a valid reason. A prominent application of digitalisation is the hassle free manner in which utility bills such as phone, electricity & internet bills, can be paid & to do so the number of apps to choose from, are many. Multiple levels of authentication makes digital transactions safe & secure while the contrast in speed of operation between digital & manual systems is not comparable. An added motivation for using digital mode of payments is the attractive cash back offers which are granted in addition to the rewards & discounts while using digital payment apps & mobile wallets. This further fuels the quest to go cashless. Intense competition between the different digital options at one’s disposal has greatly brought down the service fee rendered to extremely negligible levels and in many cases there are no service charges at all. These charges are only expected to further dwindle down. Tracking digital transactions becomes much easier when compared to manual modes with transaction histories at the disposal of banks & other institutions. In nutshell, cashflow can be effortlessly scrutinized. Customers having 24/7 access to banking services irrespective of whether or not it’s a bank holiday, the luxury to avoid heavy traffic on the roads to reach the banks & the comfort to avoid venturing out in inclement weather are among the remarkable features defining the modus operandi of digital transactions. Distances from home to banks & other financial institutions have been rendered inconsequential. A more transparent

method for the Government to keep track of transactions is facilitated owing to available stored data. Elimination of black money & counterfeit notes in the long run becomes more feasible. Less cash in the

system also implies less cost of minting currency & this greatly contributes to improving the economy. The plans of the Reserve Bank of India to launch the Digital Rupee ( also known as E – Rupee) appear to be interesting. While apprehension does persist on the inclusion of the E – Rupee into the digital framework



involving cash transactions, pilot projects are still in force so as to test the effectiveness of using E – Rupee as legal tender. Of course, the cost of printing physical currency would be saved in the process of using E – Rupee as alternative currency. The value of E – Rupee would be on par with the physical Rupee. If the current trends are any indication, monetary transactions in India are likely to become almost entirely cashless in the not so distant future. We have made a good start to the digitalisation process. Can we make it a great finish? There is a lot of buzz, some apprehension, a little uncertainty, umpteen research carried out to make digitalisation more reliable & hence more acceptable & needless to say there’s heightened expectation all around.

Currency notes are sort of becoming an endangered species with every passing day. It would not be surprising then if someone mentioned after a few years that he / she had not seen physical currency for ages. So, physical currency on the way out within say 10 years - any takers? Or any takers for E-Rupee ruling the roost in the years to come by? Will digitalisation be the sort of game changer as is widely anticipated by the so called connoisseurs of the field? These are unanswered queries that only time can unravel.





**Rajumon P C**  
DGM & In-Charge  
Electrical Dept.

# On Achieving ICAO's NCLB Goal

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)'s Second Global Implementation Support Symposium (GISS) was held at Hotel Conrad Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 30 May to 1 June 2023. Hosted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), this event combined ICAO's World Aviation Forum (IWAF), the Global Aviation Cooperation Symposium (GACS), and the Global Aviation Training and TRAINAIR PLUS Symposium, with the aim of highlighting the Organization's latest digital tools, key initiatives, and collaborative endeavours to support aviation resilience, innovation, sustainable development, and operational solutions. These topics were discussed as part of ICAO's efforts to support the realization

of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals set in the UN 2030 Agenda and ICAO's No Country Left Behind (NCLB) initiative.

Interactive panels focused on the theme of the Symposium and included discussions on how ICAO supports Member States in the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS), and Global, Regional, and National Aviation Plans, through innovative implementation support and training activities. The Symposium served as a platform to unite current and prospective Technical Cooperation Partners, TRAINAIR PLUS Programme (TPP) Members, and other industry stakeholders, including but not limited to:

Ministries, Directorates General of Civil Aviation, International and regional organizations, high-level participants representing aviation service providers (i.e. air navigation service providers, airport operators, airlines), financial and development institutions, human resources departments, and project/procurement sections, and academic institutions.

The opening ceremony was attended by Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General of ICAO, Mr. Hee-ryong Won, Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, ROK, Mr. Jaiwon Shin, President of Hyundai Motor Group and CEO of Supernal, Ms. Amy Khor-Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport, Singapore, Mr. Budi Karya Sumadi - Minister of Transportation, Indonesia, Mr. Charles E Schlumberger - Lead Air Transport Specialist, The World Bank along with many other dignitaries. There were more than 1000 participants from over 80 countries. This was one of the largest symposiums held in the aviation sector.

The main topics of discussion were the adoption of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) & Reducing impact on climatic changes by using cleaner fuel, Reduction of carbon footprint, New Technology adoption like Urban Air Mobility (UAM) with Vertiports, Use of drones in surveillance and Airfield inspections, Cybersecurity, Integrated approach to aviation training, Providing qualified Human Resources through training and partnership post covid aviation sector, Expansion of existing airport facilities, Building new airports, UN Financial



Cochin International Airport was prominently represented at the esteemed ICAO GISS 2023 event by Mr. Santhosh S, GM (IT & Communication), Mr. Rajumon P. C, DGM & In-Charge (Electrical), and Mr. Sivadasan Haridasan, Chief Security Officer.



Korean Hyundai Motor Company's UAM & Vertiport concept- transportation technology of the immediate future.

assistance through World Bank initiatives, etc.

The highlight of the symposium was a tour of Incheon Airport comprising of MRO Hangars visit run by Sharp Technics K - a state-of-the-art aircraft MRO facility completed in January 2017 occupying a total floor area of 12,374m2, capable of accommodating two bays of B737 aircraft

or one bay of B787 or B747-400 aircraft safe from the elements. The Incheon Airport Aviation Academy (IAAA) - is one of the first training centers in the Asia-Pacific region certified by three globally renowned aviation organizations ICAO, ACI, and IATA. IAAA was designated as an ICAO Regional Training Centre of Excellence (RTCE) in 2014. The academy has a virtual simulation training center,

perfect vantage point for watching planes take off and land.

We could learn a lot from the initiatives and activities of member countries like the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, Qatar, UAE, etc in the way they expand the horizon of aviation and how ICAO helps in achieving higher Global Aviation Standards, especially with their - No Country Left Behind (NCLB) initiative.

We could experience harmonious Korean culture, their valuable history, gracious hospitality, iconic technologies, and we sincerely thank Mr. S. Suhas IAS, our Managing Director for having given us this wonderful opportunity. .... finally assimilated that there is much more to Korea than K-Pop & K-Dramas!!!



A robot helping passengers at Incheon Airport, Seoul.



Panoramic airport view from Oseong Mountain Observatory Desk.





**P. N. Mishra**  
Aircraft Maintenance  
Engineer

# CIASL

## The Trust name in Aircraft Maintenance

**CIASL** is an on-Aircraft, acclaimed Aircraft Maintenance Organization with CAMO at Kochi, keeping a strict eye on each maintenance activity/ document and maintaining all records as per the guidelines from each operator's regulatory authorities. CIASL is proud to say that almost every month in a year an audit from regulatory authorities or operators is conducted successfully, which creates more confidence in its day-to-day work.

CIASL is India's only CAR 145 Approved Maintenance and Repair Organization (MRO) with Approval from ten regulatory authorities and provides maintenance services to 13 Airlines-

CIASL, the Aircraft Maintenance Organization, is fully equipped with all the necessary facilities like humidity controlled and thermally regulated Bonded Store which contains aircraft wheel assemblies of narrow and wide-body aircraft, aircraft spares, Special tools, wheel torque wrenches of various capacities, expendable items, general tools, CDCCL handling benches, etc.. in well allocated identifiable bins and fluidic consumable items under strict care and inspection of dedicated stores in charge. The nitrogen trolley, tow bars, GPU, and a number of trestles to access any corner of the aircraft are all the time available for any exigency or special inspections on the aircraft. All the tools and equipment are maintained as per regulatory schedules and are

Sl. No.	Approval Number	Regulatory Authorities	Operating Airlines
1	F/CIASL/726	DGCA, India	-
2	EASA.145.0545	EASA	-
3	UAE.145.1096	GCAA	Etihad Airlines
4	UAE.145.1096	BCAA (Baharin)	Air Arabia
5	ALD/AIR/8/5.147	GCAA	Gulf Air
6	DGCA/AMO/091	DGCA Kuwait	Jazeera Airways
7	DGCA/AMO/091	DGCA Kuwait	Kuwait Airways
8	EASA.145.0545	EASA	Island Aviation
9	AWR/AMO/CIASL-211/19	CAA Oman	Oman Air
10	QCAA/FAMO/134	QCAA (Qatar)	Qatar Air
11	AWI322	CAAS (Singapore)	Scoot
12	CAASL.145.213	CAASL Sri Lanka	Sri Lankan Airlines
13	569/2560	CAAT Thailand	Thai AirAsia

checked for their proper functions regularly. Charging of Hydraulic Fluids, Landing Gear Oleo and replacement of wheels have been done many times on aircraft, within Turn Around Time (TAT) without affecting the schedule departure of the aircraft by CIASL highly skilled technical team.



The MRO facility of CIASL is not limited to Apron only but extends to Hangars also. It has two EASA-approved Hangars for narrow-body aircraft, which are presently entrusted to M/s Air Works and are doing Base Maintenance on Indian and Foreign Registered Aircraft, with a workforce of 250 technical and non-technical employees.

It takes several disciplines to properly conduct maintenance activities on an aircraft to make it airworthy, well within time and CIASL has earned it an appreciation certificate from EASA for maintaining the quality of services with perfect documentation. The maintenance services range is from narrow-body Airbus A320 family and B737 -800/Max to wide-body aircraft Air Bus 330, Boeing 787/777, Air Bus 350. The technical team is highly experienced and qualified to maintain most of the commercial airplanes presently flying in the sky today.

CIASL is also well recognized for its training center with excellent trainers, covering technical and non-technical courses on aviation for general and corporate personnel. It has already successfully conducted many short-term courses on Airport Operations Management, Cargo operations management, Dangerous goods transportation, Airport Safety Management Systems, Basic Fire Fighting Courses, Xray baggage inspection systems training, Basic security gadgets training for RBI & Customs, Soft skill

Development courses, and CIAL staff training programs. To add value to the aircraft technical courses, CIASL is about to commence courses in Aircraft Maintenance Management, Human factors in Airport, Basic First Aid trainings, Airport supervisors' skill and competence development program, Airport Customer service Executive skill development program etc. The Aviation Security Training Institute operated by CIASL also conducts regular programs of Basic Avsec course, Basic Avsec refresher courses, Avsec induction course, Inline pre-screeners course and Avsecawareness courses.

Presently, CIASL is doing Line Maintenance (on-Aircraft) services but has put forth its step to add more maintenance facilities to its workscope, leading to the workshop for component maintenance and Heavy Maintenance. It has earned the trust of all 13 airlines for maintaining continuous quality standards which leads CIASL to expand its wings from Line Maintenance to another area of Aircraft Maintenance in the coming days.

CIASL has an interactive group of people determined to make aviation a safe, efficient, and pleasurable activity and it practices the highest degree of safety rules under the stringent procedures of CIAL airport authorities even on the ground.

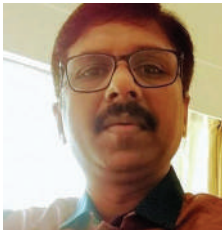
CIASL believes that safety starts from the ground to maintain the airworthiness of an aircraft in the air.

*(The author is a senior Aircraft Maintenance Manager on contract currently working at CIASL.)*





# Indian Aviation MRO Industry poised for growth



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## The MRO Market Potential In India

India's aviation sector's current fleet stands at 714 commercial aircraft; and 17 cargos, totaling 731 aircraft. Of these, 486 are Airbus types; 143 are Boeing types, 62 ATRs; 28 are Bombardier Q400; ERJ5; 1 E-175; 2 are Caravan; and 2 are Dornier 228. These figures are from April 1, 2023.

According to Aviation Week Fleet Discovery data, of the 22,287 civil aircraft globally, 2,188 are in parked/reserved status, 3,400 are in parked status, and 6,000 are stored. An airline's expenditure in MRO accounts for 15% of total revenues — the second highest expense

after fuel cost. The industry is highly regulated and holds critical importance for Indian civil aviation.

The MRO business is capital-intensive and requires significant investment in infrastructure, materials, training of manpower, and technology. Currently, most of the MRO services are outsourced to countries like Singapore, Malaysia, and the United Arab Emirates, which demonstrates a huge demand and low supply model domestically. MRO is a labor-intensive industry that depends on the availability of a skilled workforce at a lower cost to improve profitability. India holds an edge over MRO hubs like the US, Europe, Singapore, and others as it has the availability of low-cost certified technicians.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) reports India is expected to become the third-largest aviation market by 2026. This also represents a huge expansion scope for MRO facilities in India. The sector can capitalise on the significant increase in the number of air passengers, rapid expansion of commercial fleets, entry of low-cost carriers, growth of charter services, quest

for efficiency, and government initiatives to boost MRO growth to transform India into a global hub for these services. India is also poised to become a large defence aircraft market. With a rise in military expenditure, the need for military MRO capabilities will also increase. A capable, indigenous MRO industry is imperative to support the Indian aviation industry's growth, both civilian and defence. The recent Government initiatives include the following.

- Import Duty exempted on Special Tools and Equipment for Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO);
- Customs duty waiver that applied to spares only for Airlines extended to MRO;
- Simplified clearance processing of parts;
- 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been permitted via automatic route for MRO;
- Relaxed restrictions on utilization of duty-free components from one year to three years;
- Aircraft brought into the country for MRO are allowed to stay from one month to six months without penalties;
- The Place of Supply (PoS) of MRO services changed to the location of the



recipient to ensure a level playing field for MRO located in India and to incentivize the setting up of MRO in India by Indian or foreign entrepreneurs;

- GST on Domestic MRO services was reduced from 18% to 5%;
- Sub-contracted transactions to domestic MRO by foreign MRO are now treated as exports with zero-rated GST. As a result, when foreign OEM sub-contracts work to an Indian MRO, the work done by the Indian MRO amounts to the export of services by an Indian entity to a foreign entity, attracting no tax.

## Current Status of the Indian MRO Industry

With such big fleets of Indian carriers, where does India stand on the MRO front? Air India Engineering Service Limited (AIESL) is the largest MRO owned by the Indian government. It has six main bases: Delhi, Mumbai, Nagpur, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Trivandrum.

AIESL, in its bases, has several capabilities, from cabin refurbishment to aircraft weighing to component repairs to airframe repair to engine repair and overhaul. Apart from these bases, it undertakes line maintenance at various stations at home and overseas, such as

Ras-Al-Khaimah, Sharjah, Dubai, and Kathmandu, all with wheel change capabilities.

IndiGo, India's largest airline, opened its second MRO facility at Kempegowda International Airport, Bangalore, on November 17, 2022. The airline signed a 20-year agreement with BIAL to build a hangar of 13,000 sqm on a plot of land of five acres. The facility will accommodate two narrow-body aircraft and support infrastructure, including a Quick Engine Change (QEC) shop, warehouse, and engineering offices. The MRO will be the airline's second venture after the one at Delhi Airport, which is a smaller one.

GMR Aero Technik is also a third-party MRO, based in Hyderabad, with full capabilities in all departments of MRO, from major maintenance to complete body painting and composite repair to component repair. It has narrow-body capabilities, specializing in Airbus, ATR, and Bombardier. Besides Hyderabad, where it carries out major maintenance, it also carries out line maintenance in Delhi, Goa, and Kathmandu.

AAR-Indamer Technics Private Limited is a joint venture between AAR, a major MRO in the USA, and Indamer Technics (the oldest MRO in India). It will set up a facility in Nagpur. This new joint venture plans to

initially perform major checks of Airbus A320 family aircraft under DGCA, EASA, and FAA approvals. All required support workshops will be part of the MRO.

Air Works India, India's largest third-party MRO, is certified to maintain more than 50 types of aircraft. It is also the most diversified MRO in the country and has base maintenance facilities at Hosur, Tamil Nadu, and Kochi close to 1,500 employees. It also provides commercial aircraft asset management services, avionics, cabin and interior solutions, 3D printing, and aircraft refinishing services apart from MRO-related offerings.

## Current Status of Cochin Airport MRO

CIASL (a wholly owned subsidiary company of CIAL) owns two MRO facilities are Cochin Airport. This facility comprises of two narrow body hangars (5500 sqm) and associated area of over 6500 sqm of workshop and other facilities across two floors. This facility admeasuring 12000 sqm is leased out to M/s Airworks and they manages this facility now.

Apart from this, CIASL has constructed and maintains 32000 sqm of parking bay facility leaving room for another three





more hangars namely two narrow body and one narrow body hangars adjacent to these parking bays. The overall capacity then can be increased to three narrow-body hangars, one General aviation hangar, and two wide-body hangars. Cochin MRO has already begun attracting leading Indian Carriers such as Air Asia, Go Air, Indigo, Vistara, and Indigo. Recognizing its potential, the General Aviation Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA), Saudi Arabia, recently certified this facility to undertake deep-seated Engineering and maintenance-related tasks.

**Distinctive advantage of Cochin MRO.**

To cut down logistics costs and streamline aircraft operations, MRO services are usually preferred within/near the airport premises. To fulfil this requirement, countries such as Singapore have provisions to reserve lands for MRO hangars during the developmental stages of airports. Major airports in India, however, have little or no provisioning of

land for establishing MRO hangars within/near the airport. This has left MRO operators with limited choices to position themselves in proximity to the airports, compelling them to incur augmented logistics and operations costs. MRO operators thus also face stockholding issues that restrict their scope to provide end-to-end services. However, Cochin Airport MRO having direct access to the operational area positions itself as the favorite location. On top of it, this airport is a hub to Middle East flight operations.

Though harmonized with EASA regulations and guidelines under the EU-India Aviation Agreement, yet European authorities or countries following EASA, often do not recognize DGCA certifications and approvals at par with certifications or approvals issued by the EASA states. EASA certification permits Indian MROs to maintain and release aircraft registered in the European Union as well as install components on them. An Indian MRO is unable to perform services to aircraft registered in the European Union if its EASA approval is absent or revoked. MROs must obtain EASA clearance for European Union-registered

aircrafts, even if they have DGCA and FAA approvals. Cochin MRO is already certified by EASA which addresses this issue.

Royalty charged by airports – As per stakeholders, the Airport Authority of India (AAI) continues to levy airport royalty on the Gross Turn Over (GTO) – under several categories such as ground handling, revenue sharing, demurrage, and so on – which ranges from 11% to 20%. However, Cochin Airport has not been levying any such charges on MRO operations, which is another advantage for this location.

Another infrastructural bottleneck of the Indian MRO sector is the lack of training infrastructure. To cite an example, at least 20-30 institutes do not have an aircraft for training. As the CIASL also has an Aviation academy in its fold, a CAR -147 maintenance training Institute can also be set up through a collaboration between CIASL and MRO operator, which gives an additional advantage of creating adequate technical capability theoretical and practical experience in Aircraft maintenance.





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## airBaltic to open Canary Islands base



airBaltic has found a new winter home for two of its Airbus A220-300 aircraft. The Latvian airline will base two A220s at Las Palmas de Gran Canaria International Airport (LPA) during the upcoming winter season, flying to 10 destinations in Northern Europe and the Baltics from the Spanish airport.

@aviator.aero

## American Airlines, JetBlue win more time to unwind Northeast Alliance



American Airlines and JetBlue can unwind their North East Alliance (NEA) for a longer period of time to minimize disruption to consumers. United States (US) District Court for the District of Massachusetts Judge Leo Sorokin pushed back the effective date after which the two carriers have to end the NEA, ruling that he would provide the final judgment and permanent injunction date later than the current date of June 20, 2023.

@ www.wcvb.com

## Saudi-based low-cost flynas eyes order from Airbus



Saudi Arabia-based low-cost carrier flynas could finalize an agreement with Airbus as soon as next week. A Bloomberg report citing people familiar with the matter claimed that the Saudi Arabian airline is looking to bolster its order book to compete with other airlines within the region. The order could come as soon as the Paris Air Show, which begins on June 19, 2023, the report added.

@Airlinerwatch

## Air Tanzania welcomes its first Boeing 767-300 freighter with a water salute



Air Tanzania has received its first and only Boeing 767-300 freighter. The African carrier is the first operator of the cargo aircraft, registered as 5H-TCO.

@Simple Flying

## Spain's large empty airport to become MRO center



Sabena Technics, one of Europe's leading MRO providers, plans to open a new aircraft servicing facility at Ciudad Real International Airport in Spain, as reported in Spanish media on April 23, 2023. This decision brings a new lease of life, and potentially a potential path for growth, to this airport in the Mancha region of central Spain, which for years has struggled to find a viable business model.

@Aerotime news

## EASA looks to address a potential fuel tank ignition on all Airbus A320 aircraft



The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) issued an Airworthiness Directive (AD) that investigates a potential ignition source in the fuel tanks of all Airbus A320 family aircraft. According to EASA, multiple failures of type 8410 fuel pumps with the part number (P/N) 568-1-27202-005 have been reported. Subsequent investigations revealed that the pump failed "due to one of the two screws and nuts holding the gas return connector to the top of the motor housing becoming unscrewed".

@aviacionline



# CDRSL: Experimenting New Marketing Strategies



**Saji K George**  
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Exe. Director & CS, CIAL

**Marketing soars to new heights in the first half of 2023.**

From the very first day of the New Year, the stage was set for a series of captivating promotional activities and campaigns. A remarkable way to commence the year was orchestrated by the Cochin Duty-Free Team, who united to create a vibrant and meticulously choreographed dance video on the shop floor. This dazzling display caught the attention of social media users.

As the calendar turned, the mega promotion, which had captivated audiences until the stroke of midnight on December 31st, concluded. The fortunate winner of the first lucky draw of the year was Mrs. Lovely Varghese, who triumphantly drove away in a sleek Skoda Kushaq.


February brought with it a significant sales milestone: Valentine's Day. Embracing the theme of 'Self Love,' a captivating video was released on this romantic occasion. The flawlessly executed story showcased a young man arriving at the Duty-Free Shop after a flight, perusing the counters, and ultimately selecting a box of chocolates — for himself! This creative portrayal beautifully conveyed the idea of falling in love with oneself and garnered immense appreciation from Cochin Duty-Free's followers on social media.

Throughout this period, a month-long promotion centered around products synonymous with the Day of Love, such as chocolates and perfumes, was diligently organised. A colossal heart-shaped installation featuring Godiva became the centerpiece, captivating the attention of all who entered Cochin Duty-Free.



Undoubtedly, one of the most significant marketing triumphs of 2023 was the collaboration with renowned vlogger and automobile journalist, Baiju N Nair. As a prominent figure in the travel sector, Baiju's every move is followed by hundreds of thousands of subscribers on his YouTube channel, making him the perfect ambassador to unveil the story of Cochin Duty-Free. Baiju's distinct presenting style and his ability to convey information in a comprehensible manner propelled the video to unprecedented popularity among travellers. Within a short span of time, the video garnered over 216,000 views, captivating Malayali audiences everywhere.

Another notable video celebrated Women's Day through a captivating montage of three scenarios. This film underscored the significance of transcending mere equality and embracing true equity. Notably, most of the "actors" featured in this production were part of Team Cochin Duty-Free! The video resonated with over 83,242 viewers. Looking ahead, the marketing efforts for the remainder of the year will center around delivering exceptional promotions, innovative novelties, and exclusive products that travellers perpetually seek. Above all, the focal point will be on creating an authentic, world-class shopping experience that will etch fond memories into the hearts of all customers.



### Description

**Happy Women's Day**

67  
Likes

83,242  
Views

8 Mar  
2023

#EmbraceEquity

Gender equity must be part of every society's DNA. However, more awareness is required to understand the difference between equality and equity and why equal opportunities aren't enough. Let's #EmbraceEquity for true inclusion and equitable action.

Happy International Women's Day!







**വിനുമോൾ**  
സുപ്പർവൈസർ, കൊച്ചിൻ ഡ്യൂട്ടി ഫ്രീ

# മരതക ദ്വീപിന്റെ ഭംഗി നുകർന്ന്...

സിയാലിലെ ജീവനക്കാരായ **വിനുമോൾ, രമ്യ, അനിത (ഡ്യൂട്ടിഫ്രീ), രതി (സെക്യൂരിറ്റി), ആതിര (ഫിനാൻസ്)** എന്നിവരുടെ **ലക്ഷദ്വീപ് യാത്രാനുഭവങ്ങൾ**



ലക്ഷദ്വീപ് എന്ന സ്ഥലം യാത്രയ്ക്കായ് തെരഞ്ഞെടുത്തത് വളരെ ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടൊന്നുമല്ല. യാതൊരു ഒരുക്കവും ഇല്ലാതെ, അമിതാവേശത്താൽ തട്ടിക്കൂട്ടിയ ഒരു യാത്രയായിരുന്നു അത്. സിയാലിലെ അഞ്ചു സുഹൃത്തുക്കളുടെ ഒരു പെട്ടെന്നുള്ള പുറപ്പാട്..കുറെ നാളുകളായി കാത്തിരുന്ന ഒരു ലേഡീസ് ഒൺലി ട്രിപ്പ്.. ലീവ്, മകന്റെ പരീക്ഷ, വീട്ടു കാര്യുടെ മൗനസമ്മതം, ഫ്ളൈറ്റ് ടിക്കറ്റ് എന്നീ കടമ്പകൾ താണ്ടി സ്പോൺസറേയും കണ്ടു പിടിച്ചു ഇനി തടസങ്ങൾ ഒന്നും ഉണ്ടാവരുതേ എന്ന് വിചാരിച്ച് കാത്തിരുന്നത് വെറുതെ യായില്ല. ഫെബ്രുവരി 14, 2023. രാവിലെ ആയിരുന്നു ഫ്ളൈറ്റ്. ഒന്നേ മുക്കാൽ മണി കൂർ കൊണ്ട് നമ്മുടെ വിമാനത്താവളത്തിൽ നിന്നും അഗത്തിയിലെ പ്രാദേശിക എയർ പോർട്ടിൽ എത്തി. വളരെ ചെറിയ എയർ പോർട്ടും നമ്മുടെ വീട്ടിലെ ഒരു മുറിയുടെ അത്രയും വലുപ്പമുള്ള അവിടത്തെ ബാഗ്ഗേജ് കളക്ഷൻ ഏറിയതും മറ്റ് സംവിധാനങ്ങളും ഒട്ടൊന്നുമല്ല ഞങ്ങളിൽ കൗതുകമുണർത്തിയത്.

താമസസ്ഥലത്ത് എത്തിക്കുന്നത് വരെ ക്ഷമയോടെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ ലക്ഷദ്വീപിനെ പറ്റിയുള്ള ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു അറിയാവുന്ന പോലെയാക്കെ മറുപടി തന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നു സ്പോൺസർ അച്ച ഡ്രൈവർ. അഗത്തി 7.6

കിലോമീറ്റർ നീളമുള്ള ഒരു പവിഴദ്വീപ് ആണെന്നും, 18 ചതുരശ്ര കിലോമീറ്റർ ലഗുൺ തീരമുണ്ടെന്നും പറഞ്ഞതോർക്കുന്നു. പോലീസ് സ്റ്റേഷനിൽ പോയി പെർമിറ്റ് കാണിച്ചു. തുരുമ്പു പിടിച്ച ഒരു പോലീസ് ബോലേറോ വിശ്രമിക്കുന്നത് കണ്ടു. അതിന് കാരണം ഇവിടെ കുറ്റകൃത്യങ്ങൾ കുറവാണെന്നും മറ്റും ഡ്രൈവർ വിവരിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. മുന്നോട്ടു പോകുംതോറും കര നേർത്തു വരുന്നത് കാണാമായിരുന്നു. ഇരു വശത്തും ശാന്തമായ കടൽ ഞങ്ങളെ സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്തു. കടൽത്തീരത്തോട് ചേർന്നായിരുന്നു ഞങ്ങളുടെ താമസസ്ഥലം. നേരെ നോക്കുമ്പോൾ തന്നെ കടൽ കാണാമായിരുന്നു .

ഇത്രയും ശാന്തമായ നീലയും പച്ചയും നിറമാർന്ന ലഗുൺ തീരം ഞാൻ ആദ്യമായി നേരിട്ടു കാണുകയായിരുന്നു... പവിഴ പുറ്റു കളാൽ വർണാഭമായി സൂര്യസ്നാനമേറ്റ് കിടക്കുന്ന തീരങ്ങളും, തലയുയർത്തി നിൽക്കുന്ന തെങ്ങുകളും വെളുത്ത മണൽത്തരികളുമായി എന്നെ വരവേറ്റ അഗത്തി ഒരു കൊച്ചു സുന്ദരി തന്നെയായിരുന്നു. ഏതോ കവി പാടിയത് പോലെ കണ്ടത് മനോഹരം .. കാണാത്തതു അതിമനോഹരം.....എന്നത് യാഥാർഥ്യം ആയിതോന്നി. ഉച്ചഭക്ഷണം സ്പോൺസറുടെ വീട്ടിൽ നിന്നായിരുന്നു. എരിവില്ലാത്ത

മീൻകറി എന്നൊഴിച്ചാൽ രുചിയുള്ള വിഭവങ്ങൾ ആയിരുന്നു. ഒട്ടും സമയം കളയാതെ യാതൊരു മുൻവിധി കളുമില്ലാതെ ഞങ്ങൾ സ്കൂബാ ഡൈവിംഗ് - നായി പുറപ്പെട്ടു. ഡിസ്കവറി ചാനലിൽ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ട് എന്നതല്ലാതെ സ്കൂബയെ പറ്റി എനിക്ക് യാതൊരു ധാരണയുമില്ലായിരുന്നു. വെള്ളത്തിനടിയിൽ ശ്വാസിക്കാൻ ആവശ്യമായ എല്ലാം അടങ്ങിയ ഉപകരണങ്ങളോട് കൂടിയ ഒരു മുങ്ങലാണ് സ്കൂബാ. ഡീ കമ്പ്രസ്സ് ചെയ്ത ഓക്സിജൻ ഒരു റെഗുലേറ്റർ വഴി സ്വീകരിച്ചു കടലിന്റെ അടിത്തട്ട് വരെ പോകാനും കൂടുതൽ സമയം കാഴ്ചകൾ കാണാനും സാധിക്കും.

ഈ അടുത്തകാലത്തൊന്നും നേരിട്ടിട്ടില്ലാത്ത ഒരു ജീവിതാനുഭവം തന്നെയായിരുന്നു സ്കൂബ. നമ്മളെല്ലാവരും ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഒരിക്കലേങ്കിലും ചെയ്തിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ് എന്ന രീതിയിൽ അതെന്നെ അത്ഭുതപ്പെടുത്തി എന്ന് പറയാതെ വയ്യ. ഉള്ളിലേക്കെടുക്കുന്ന ഓരോ ശ്വാസത്തിനും ദൈവത്തോട് നന്ദി പറഞ്ഞ നിമിഷങ്ങൾ. എന്റെ ഉള്ളിലെ ഞാൻ എന്ന ഭാവത്തിന്റെ ചെറിയ കണികയെ പോലും എരിച്ചു കളയാൻ തക്ക രീതിയിൽ ഉള്ള ഒരു പരീക്ഷ. ജീവൻ, ശ്വാസം, കടൽ , ഇമവെട്ടാതെ നോക്കാൻ തോന്നിപ്പിക്കുന്ന വിവിധതരം ജീവനുള്ള പവിഴപ്പുറ്റുകളുടെ

വർണ്ണ കാഴ്ച കൾ, ചെറുപുഞ്ചിരി സമ്മാനിച്ചു നീന്തി നീങ്ങുന്ന ഭംഗിയുള്ള ചെറുതും വലുതുമായ മൽസ്യങ്ങളുടെ ഫാഷൻ പരേഡ്, കൂടെയുള്ള ഗൈഡ് സമീപത്തു തന്നെയുണ്ടോ എന്ന ആശങ്ക, മറ്റുള്ളവർ ഓക്കേ ആണോ എന്ന ചെറുതായ വേവലാതി... എന്നിങ്ങനെ സമ്മിശ്രചിന്തകളിലൂടെയുള്ള ഒരു റിയാലിറ്റി ഹിറ്റ് ആയിരുന്നു സ്കൂബാ.

വിശ്രമത്തിനു ശേഷം വൈകിട്ട് അഗത്തി ചുറ്റിക്കാണാൻ ഇറങ്ങി. എം. വി. കോരൽസ് എന്ന യാത്രാക്കപ്പൽ കാണാൻ പോയി. 450 യാത്രക്കാരെയും 250 എം.റ്റി കാർഗോയും വഹിക്കാൻ ആശാൻ സാധിക്കും എന്ന് സ്പോൺസറുടെ സുഹൃത്തായ ക്യാപ്റ്റൻ പറഞ്ഞു തന്നു. ആദ്യമായാണ് ഒരു യാത്രാ കപ്പലിന്റെ അകത്തു കയറിയത്. രുചികരമായ അത്താഴത്തിന് ശേഷം ഉറക്കത്തിലേക്കു വീണപ്പോൾ.... ആരോ സ്വപ്നത്തിൽ വന്നു പറയുന്നത് പോലെ.. 'ഞാൻ മഹത്തായൊരു ജീവിതപ്രമാണമാണ്. അനന്തമായ ജലരാശിയുടെ അഗാധതയിൽ പരശ്ശതം ജീവജന്യ സ്തൂലകളെ ഉൾക്കൊള്ളുന്ന വിസ്തൃതക്കാഴ്ചയാണ് ഞാൻ. എന്താണ് നീ എത്രയും നാൾ വരാൻ വൈകിയത്?'

## ബംഗാരം ദ്വീപ്

പിറ്റേന്ന് അതിരാവിലെ ബോട്ടിൽ ബംഗാരം ദ്വീപ് കാണാനായി പുറപ്പെട്ടു... യാത്രക്കിടയിൽ ഡോൾഫിനുകളുടെ കുട്ടത്തെയും കടലാമകളെയും അടുത്ത് കാണാനായി.

ചേർന്ന മനോഹരമായ ഒരു യാത്ര തന്നെയായിരുന്നു അത്. ദുരെ ബംഗാരം ദ്വീപ് കാണാമായിരുന്നു. ദ്വീപ് അടുത്തടുത്തു വരുന്ന കാഴ്ച, പഴയ ഒരു ഹോളി വുഡ് സിനിമയിലെ രംഗങ്ങളെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിച്ചു. ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ഏതോ ഉന്നതതല മിറ്റിംഗ് നടക്കുന്നത് കൊണ്ട് ദ്വീപിൽ ഇറങ്ങാൻ സാധിച്ചില്ല. അത് സങ്കടമായി. പക്ഷെ മനോഹരമായ ഒരു ചെറിയ ലഗുൺ തീരത്തു ബോട്ട് അടുപ്പിച്ചു. പേരറിയാത്ത ഒരു കുട്ടം കടൽപ്പക്ഷികൾ കൂട്ടമായി വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നു... തുവെള്ള മണൽ പുതപ്പിൽ വിതറിയ വെള്ള പനിനീർപ്പൂക്കളെ പോലെ... എത്രയും ശാന്തവും വിജനവും സുന്ദരവും ആയ ഒരു കൊച്ചു വലയ ദ്വീപായിരുന്നു അത്. പുതിയ കാൽപ്പാടുകൾക്കായി കാത്തിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സുന്ദരൻ ചെറുതുരുത്ത് .. പ്രഭാത ഭക്ഷണം അവിടെയിരുന്നാണ് കഴിച്ചത്. അവിടെ നിന്നും വേഗം പോകേണ്ടി വന്നത് അത്ര ഇഷ്ടമായില്ല എങ്കിലും ഞങ്ങൾ വീണ്ടും അടുത്ത സ്ഥലത്തേക്ക് യാത്ര തിരിച്ചു.

## തിനകര

തിനകര ജനവാസം ഇല്ലാത്ത ഒരു ദ്വീപ് ആയിരുന്നു. ബോട്ട് തീരത്തോട് അത്ര അടുപ്പിച്ചില്ല . ബോട്ടിൽ നിന്നും ഇറങ്ങി ആഴം കുറഞ്ഞ കടലിലൂടെ നടന്നു തിനകരയിലെത്തി. കുറച്ചു നേരം ചുറ്റി നടന്ന ശേഷം ഒരു ചെറിയ മടപ്പുര കണ്ടു. ജോലികൾ ചെയ്യാൻ വന്ന ഒരു കുടുംബം അവിടെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അവർ ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് കരിക്ക്, നീര, ഹൽവ മുതലായവ തന്നു. കടൽത്തീരം മുഴുവനും



ഉദയ സൂര്യന്റെ ആദ്യകിരണങ്ങൾ, നീലനിറമുള്ള ഒരേ കടൽ, ബോട്ടിൽ വെച്ചടുത്ത ടൈറ്റാനിക് സെൽഫികൾ, കുമ്മാർ സാനുവിന്റെ പഴയ ഹിന്ദി ഗാനങ്ങൾ എന്നിവ

ജീവനുള്ളതും ഇല്ലാത്തതും ആയ പവിഴപുറ്റുകൾ! കക്കകൾ, കണ്ണിറക്കുന്ന ഞണ്ടുകൾ എന്നിവയെയും ധാരാളം കണ്ടു. മനോഹരമായ ഈ ദ്വീപിന്റെ തീരങ്ങൾ ദൈവം എത്ര

സന്തോഷവനായിരിക്കുമ്പോഴാണ് നിർമിച്ചതെന്നു തോന്നി. ശാന്തിയുടെ കവാടങ്ങൾ... ഞങ്ങൾക്കായി കാത്തിരുന്നതു പോലെ... തിരിച്ചു അഗത്തിയിലേക്ക് പോകും വഴി ഉച്ചയ്ക്ക് കറിവയ്ക്കാനുള്ള മത്സ്യങ്ങളെ ആതിരയും അനിതയും കൂടി പിടിക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. പക്ഷെ ബോട്ടിൽ പിടിച്ചിട്ട മീനുകൾ ജീവന് വേണ്ടി പിടയ്ക്കുന്നതു കണ്ടത് മനസിനെ ഉലച്ചു. ചെറുപ്പത്തിൽ ഇത്തരം സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ മീനുകൾക്ക് മസ്തിഷ്കമില്ലെന്നും അതുകൊണ്ട് വേദന ഇല്ലെന്നും ജ്യേഷ്ഠൻ പറഞ്ഞെന്ന ആശ്വസിപ്പിച്ചത് ഓർത്തു സമാധാനിച്ചു.

## കല്പിതി

ഉച്ചതിരിഞ്ഞു കല്പിതിയിലേക്ക് ഒരു ചെറിയ ബോട്ട് യാത്ര. ഒരു കുന്നോളം പവിഴപ്പുറ്റുകളും ചിപ്പികളും മറ്റും ഞങ്ങൾ ശേഖരിച്ചു. പ്രത്യേക തരത്തിലുള്ള കോറൽ അവശിഷ്ടങ്ങൾ അവിടെ കാണാനായി. പാറക്കെട്ടുകൾ നിറഞ്ഞ ഒരു കടൽ തീരമായിരുന്നു അത്. സായാഹ്നം അവിടെ ആസ്വദിച്ചു; കുറെ നേരം ചുറ്റി നടന്ന ശേഷം തിരിച്ചു അഗത്തിയിലേക്ക്... രാത്രിയിലെ അത്താഴത്തിനു ശേഷം കടൽത്തീരത്തു നടക്കാനിറങ്ങി.. ദ്വീപിലെ സ്ത്രീകൾ ഒന്നും പകൽ സമയത്ത് അത്ര പുറത്തു വരാറില്ല എന്ന് തോന്നി. പക്ഷെ വൈകുന്നേരമായപ്പോൾ കൂട്ടമായി കടൽത്തീരത്തു വന്നിരുന്നു കൊച്ചു വർത്തമാനം പറഞ്ഞു ഇരിക്കുന്നത് കണ്ടു.

## ഒരു അധിക ഷോട്ട് ...

എന്നെ വല്ലാതെ ചിന്തിപ്പിച്ച മറ്റൊരു കാര്യം ഇവിടെത്തെ കല്യാണങ്ങളുടെ രീതി ആയിരുന്നു. ഇവിടെയുള്ള സ്ത്രീകളെ കല്യാണം കഴിച്ചു സ്വന്തം വീട്ടിലേക്ക് കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ പറ്റില്ല . കല്യാണത്തിന് ശേഷവും അവർ അവളുടെ സ്വന്തം വീട്ടിൽ അമ്മമാരുടെ ഒപ്പം താമസിക്കും. ഭർത്താവ് വേണമെങ്കിൽ അവിടെ വന്നു നില്കുകയോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ വന്നു പോകുകയോ ചെയ്യാം. സ്ത്രീകൾക്കാണ് സ്വന്തം വീട്. പുരുഷന്മാർക്ക് വേറെ വീട് വെച്ച് മാറാം . പക്ഷെ ആ വീടും അടുത്ത തലമുറ സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് സ്വന്തമായിരിക്കും. വല്ലപ്പോഴും ഇങ്ങനെ ഓരോന്ന് കേൾക്കുന്നത് എന്റെ മനസ്സിലെ കൊച്ചു ഫെമിനിസ്റ്റിനെ സന്തോഷിപ്പിച്ചു എന്ന് പറയാതെ വയ്യ!

## കപ്പൽച്ചേത കാഴ്ചയും അനുബന്ധ സ്മോർക്കിലിങ്ങും...

പിറ്റേ ദിവസം രാവിലെ കപ്പൽച്ചേതവും കൂടുതൽ വൈവിധ്യമാർന്ന പവിഴപ്പുറ്റുകളും കാണാനായി ഇറങ്ങി.. പണ്ടങ്ങോ തകർന്ന ഒരു കപ്പലിന്റെ അവശിഷ്ടങ്ങൾ സ്മോർക്കിലിങ്ങിന്റെ സഹായത്തോടെ കടലിന്റെ അടിത്തട്ടിൽ ചെന്ന് കാണുക എന്നതായിരുന്നു തീരുമാനം. സ്കൂബയെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു സ്മോർക്കിലിങ്ങ്



എളുപ്പവുമായിരുന്നു. ഈ വിനോദ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിൽ ഡൈവിംഗ് മാസ്ക്, സ്നോർക്കൽ എന്ന് പേരായ ശ്വസന ട്യൂബ്, നീന്തൽ ഫിനുകളോ സമാന ഉപകരണങ്ങളോ എന്നിവ ആണ് ഉപയോഗിച്ചത്. കുറഞ്ഞ പ്രയത്നത്തോടെ ദീർഘനേരം വെള്ളത്തിനടിയിലൂടെ നീന്തുവാനും ആകർഷണങ്ങൾ കാണുവാനും ഉപതിതലത്തിൽ ചെന്ന് മുഖം താഴ്ത്തി ശ്വസിക്കാനും ഇതിൽ സാധിക്കുന്നു. ഏതു



പ്രായക്കാർക്കും ചെയ്യാവുന്ന തരത്തിൽ ലളിതമായി തോന്നി. നീന്തലിന്റെ ബാലപാഠങ്ങൾ പോലും അറിയാത്ത എനിക്കും മറ്റൊരാൾക്കും 10 മിനുട്ടിൽ നീന്തനായതു സന്തോഷം നൽകി. നേരത്തെ കണ്ടതിൽ നിന്നും വ്യത്യസ്തങ്ങളായ വലിയ പവിഴപ്പുറ്റുകളുടെ കൂട്ടമായിരുന്നു ഇവിടെ... അനിർവചനീയമായ ഭംഗിയുള്ള വലിയ മത്സ്യക്കൂട്ടങ്ങളെ നഗ്നനേത്രങ്ങൾ കൊണ്ട് അടുത്തു കണ്ടു. കൂടെയുള്ള ഗൈഡ് ഒരു ജീവനുള്ള നീരാളിയെ പിടിച്ചു. വഴുവഴുപ്പനായ ആ സുഹൃത്തിന്റെ കണ്ണുകൾ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ പണ്ട് കാർഗോയിൽ ജോലിചെയ്തപ്പോൾ സിൽക്ക് എയറിൽ കയറ്റി വിടാൻ കൊണ്ട് വരുമായിരുന്നോ വലിയ ഞെളുകളുടെ കണ്ണുകൾ പോലെ തോന്നി... സെൽഫി വിത്ത് നീരാളി... വളരെയധികം സമയം ഞങ്ങൾ അവിടെ ചിലവഴിച്ചു. വീണ്ടും അഗത്തിയിലേക്ക്. ഉച്ചയൂണിന് ശേഷം കാൽനടയായി സ്പോൺസറുടെ വീട് വരെ പോയി. സുന്ദരികളായ ലക്ഷ്മിപി സ്മിതികളെ കണ്ടു അത് വീട്ടു എന്ന് പറയാൻ മടിയില്ല. പഴയ രീതിയിൽ ഉള്ള വീടുകളായിരുന്നു കൂടുതൽ. കൂടുതലും മൂസ്സിം ജനവിഭാഗം ആണ്. ചെറിയ ഒരു സോവനിർ ഷോപ്പ് കണ്ടു. സ്വച്ഛമായ അവിടത്തെ ആളുകളുടെ ജീവിതത്തിൽ

കൗതുകം തോന്നി. അഗത്തിയിലെ അവസാന രാത്രി.. വീണ്ടും ഒരു സ്വപ്നം. ഒരു കുട്ടികാരന്റെ സ്വരം കാതിൽ... പ്രിയപ്പെട്ട സഞ്ചാരി... എത്തിനാണ് നീ ലക്ഷ്യസ്ഥാനം തേടി അലയുന്നത്? ജീവിച്ചും പ്രണയിച്ചും കലഹിച്ചും കുട്ടുചേർന്നും ഭൂമിയിലെ എല്ലാ നിറങ്ങളും നീ ആസ്വദിക്കൂ.. എന്നിലേക്ക് അടുത്ത ഓരോ നിമിഷവും എന്നിൽ കണ്ട എല്ലാ കാഴ്ചകളും നിനക്ക് വേണ്ടി ഞാൻ

കരുതി വെച്ചിരുന്നതാണ്...

*അഗത്തിയിലെ അവസാനദിവസം...*

പിറ്റേ ദിവസം രാവിലെ 8.45 ന് തിരിച്ചുള്ള വിമാനം. എല്ലാവരോടും ബൈ പറഞ്ഞു എയർപോർട്ടിലേക്ക്. ഐ ലവ് യു അഗത്തി ബോർഡിന് മുൻപിലെ മറക്കാനാവാത്ത സെൽഫി. മുന്നൂറ്റിനങ്ങൾ നല്ലൊരു ഓർമ്മയായി. കൂസ്യതി ചിരിയോടെ യാത്രാമൊഴി ചൊല്ലും തീരമേ വിട.



*fly elegantly*

# BUSINESS JET TERMINAL

## INDIA'S FIRST CHARTER GATEWAY

- The biggest Business Jet Terminal in the country with a built-up area of 40,000 sq. ft.
- Five opulent lounges, a Business centre, Duty-Free Shop, Foreign Exchange Counter, High-end Video Conferencing Room
- Car door to aircraft door in 2 minutes; the shortest distance in India
- A unique Gateway terminal for promoting 'Brand Kerala'



## കാഞ്ഞൂർ പഞ്ചായത്ത് കുടിവെള്ളക്ഷാമം പരിഹരിക്കാൻ സിയാലിന്റെ സഹായം

കാഞ്ഞൂർ പഞ്ചായത്ത് ഒന്നാം വാർഡിലെ കുടിവെള്ള പൈപ്പ് ലൈൻ നന്നാക്കാൻ കൊച്ചിൻ ഇന്റർനാഷണൽ എയർപോർട്ട് ലിമിറ്റഡ് ധനസഹായം നൽകി. സാമൂഹ്യ പ്രതിബദ്ധതാ ഫണ്ടിൽ നിന്നാണ് സിയാൽ, കാഞ്ഞൂർ പഞ്ചായത്തിന് സഹായം നൽകിയത്.

തൂറവുകര ഭാഗത്തുള്ള കുടിവെള്ള പൈപ്പ് ലൈൻ തകരാറിലായതിനാൽ ഒന്നാം വാർഡിലുള്ളവർ കടുത്ത ജലക്ഷാമം അനുഭവിക്കുകയാണ്. തകരാർ പരിഹരിക്കുന്ന പ്രവൃത്തിക്കായി ജല അതോറിറ്റി അടിയന്തിരമായി 1,53,000 രൂപ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. തുടർന്ന് പഞ്ചായത്ത് അധികൃതർ സിയാലിനെ ബന്ധപ്പെടുകയും സിയാൽ തുക അനുവദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. സിയാൽ മാനേജിങ് ഡയറക്ടർ എസ്.സുഹാസ്, കാഞ്ഞൂർ ഗ്രാമപഞ്ചായത്ത് പ്രസിഡന്റ് ശ്രീമതി ദയാനന്ദൻ ചെക്ക് കൈമാറി.

വാർഡംഗം വർഗീസ് വി.എസ്., കമ്പനി സെക്രട്ടറി സജി.കെ.ജോർജ്ജ് എന്നിവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു.



യാത്രയയപ്പ്



Mr. Varghese T.O.  
Senior Attendant Gr. 11



Sculpture by  
C.G. Sipin  
ARFF, CIAL

## Team CIAL @ Kochi Marathon 2023





# ജീവിതാനന്ദലഹരി !

വല്ലാത്തൊരു കുടിച്ചേരലായിരുന്നു ഇതിയാന്റെ വ്യക്തിത്വം. അടിമുടി ഇന്ത്യാക്കാരൻ. അതിവിപുലമായ ആഗോള സൂഹൃദ് വലയം. ദയ, അനുകമ്പ, സഹായമനസ്കത...എല്ലാത്തിലും പ്രശസ്തൻ. ഇങ്ങനെയൊരാൾക്ക് ചേർന്ന സ്ഥലത്തല്ല സർ ഐവാൻ മാനുവൽ മൈനസിസ് എത്തിച്ചേർന്നത്. ഡിയാജിയോ എന്ന, ലോകത്തിലെ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ മദ്യക്കമ്പനിയുടെ തലവൻ ഐവാൻ മാനുവൽ



മൈനസിസ് ഇക്കഴിഞ്ഞ ജൂൺ ഒന്നിന് അന്തരിച്ചു. വേൾഡ് 64 വയസ്സായിരുന്നു. ജൂൺ 30 ന് വിരമിക്കാനിരിക്കെയായിരുന്നു ലണ്ടനിൽ അന്ത്യം. സർ പദവി നേടിയ ലോകത്തിലെ ആദ്യ മദ്യക്കമ്പനി സി.ഇ.ഒ. എന്ന അപൂർവ്വത കൂടിയുണ്ട് ഐവാൻ മൈനസിസ്.

പുനെയിൽ ജനിച്ച ഡൽഹിയിലെ സെന്റ് സ്റ്റീഫൻസ് കോളേജിൽ നിന്ന് ധനശാസ്ത്രത്തിൽ ബിരുദവും ഐ.ഐ.എം. അഹമ്മദാബാദിൽ നിന്ന് എം.ബി. എ.യും നേടി വേൾഡ്, നെസ്ലെ തുടങ്ങിയ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളിലൂടെയാണ് ഐവാൻ മൈനസിസ് ഡിയാജിയോയിൽ എത്തിയത്. ആഗോള സ്പിരിറ്റ് വിപണിയിൽ വർഷങ്ങളായി വലിയ ഉയർച്ച താഴ്ചകളില്ലാതെ പോകുകയായിരുന്ന ഗിന്നസ്, ഗ്രാൻഡ് മെട്രോപൊളിറ്റൻ എന്നീ രണ്ടു കമ്പനികളെ ലയിപ്പിച്ച് 1997-ൽ ഡിയാജിയോ എന്ന ഭീമൻ രൂപം കൊടുത്തത് മൈനസിസ് ആയിരുന്നു. ഒരു ഇന്ത്യാക്കാരന്റെ ആദ്യമായി ആഗോള ബിസിനസ് മേഖലയിലെ സമവാക്യം മാറ്റിയെഴുതിയ നേരമായിരുന്നു അത്. പിന്നീട് വിജയ് മല്ലയുടെ യുണൈറ്റഡ് ബ്രവറീസ് ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള നിരവധി കമ്പനികളെ ഡിയാജിയോ ഏറ്റെടുത്തു. ഡിയാജിയോയുടെ കൂടക്കീഴിലുള്ള എല്ലാ ബ്രാൻഡുകളെയും ഐവാനെ അത്യുന്നതിയിലേയ്ക്കുയർത്തി. ജോണി വാക്കറിനായി ആദ്യം രൂപം കൊടുത്ത 'കീപ് വാക്കിങ്' എന്ന ടാഗ് ലൈൻ കോർപ്പറേറ്റ് ലോകത്ത് പ്രശസ്തമായി. 28,000 ജീവനക്കാരും 108 രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവർത്തനവുമുള്ള ഡിയാജിയോയെ കള്ളുകുപ്പവടക്കമ്പനി എന്നതിൽ നിന്നുയർത്തി ഏറ്റവും തൊഴിൽ സൗഹൃദ ഇടമാക്കി മാറ്റി. ഡിയാജിയോയിലെ എച്ച്.

ആർ നയങ്ങളിൽ ഐവാൻ വരുത്തിയ പരിഷ്ക്കാരങ്ങൾ പലതും പിന്നീട് ലോകമെങ്ങും അനുവർത്തിക്കപ്പെട്ടു. സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് അത്ര പഥ്യമില്ലാത്ത ഈ തൊഴിലിടം വനിതാ സൗഹൃദമാക്കി. ഈ ഇടപെടലാണ് മൈനസിസിനെ സർ പദവിയ്ക്ക് അർഹനാക്കിയത്.

കുടുതൽ കുടിക്കരുത്; മികച്ച രീതിയിൽ കുടിക്കുക (ഡുനോട്ട് ഡ്രിങ്ക് മച്ച്; ഡ്രിങ്ക് ബെറ്റർ) എന്ന ഐവാന്റെ ആപ്തവാക്യം 'ഡിയാജിയോ ബ്രാൻഡ് കുടിയന്മാർ' ഏറ്റെടുത്തു. അവർ മദ്യം മിതമായി മാത്രം കുടിച്ചു. ഉത്തരവാദിത്തങ്ങൾ നിറവേറ്റി. തന്റെ തലമുറയിലെ ഏറ്റവും വിജയംവരിച്ച സി.ഇ.ഒ.യായി മാത്രമല്ല മൈനസിസിനെ ലോകം തിരിച്ചറിയുന്നത്. മറിച്ച്; ഏറ്റവും വിനയാന്വിതനായ സി.ഇ.ഒ. എന്ന നിലയ്ക്ക് കൂടിയാണ്. 105 കോടി രൂപയായിരുന്നു മൈനസിസിന്റെ വാർഷിക ശമ്പളം! ടച്ചിങ്സ് എന്ന വണ്ണം കോടികളുടെ അലവൻസ് വേറെ... രാജകീയ ജീവിതമായിരുന്നു മൈനസിസിന്റേത്. റെയിൽവേ ബോർഡ് ചെയർമാനായിരുന്ന മാനുവൽ മൈനസിസ് ആയിരുന്നു പിതാവ്. ജ്യേഷ്ഠനാകട്ടെ സിറ്റി ബാങ്ക് സി.ഇ.ഒ.യും, ചെയർമാനുമായിരുന്ന വിക്ടർ മൈനസിസ്... പിന്നീട് ഉഗ്രന്മാരായ പലർക്കൊപ്പം സെന്റ് സ്റ്റീഫൻസിൽ ബി.എ.യ്ക്ക് ഒരു ക്ലാസ്സിലിരുന്നു പഠിച്ചു. അവരുടെ സാമ്പിൾ ഇതാ; സുപ്രീം കോടതി ചീഫ് ജസ്റ്റസ് ഡി.വൈ. ചന്ദ്രചൂഡ്, സുപ്രീം കോടതി ജഡ്ജി സഞ്ജയ് കൗൾ, വേൾഡ് ബാങ്ക് സി.ഇ.ഒ അജയ് ബംഗ, സുപ്രീംകോടതി അഭിഭാഷകനും കോൺഗ്രസ് വക്താവുമായ മനു അഭിഷേക് സിങ്വി, കേന്ദ്രസർക്കാരിന്റെ ധനകാര്യ ഉപദേഷ്ടാവ് അരവിന്ദ് സുബ്രഹ്മണ്യം.....

അഭിജാത കുബേരനായ മൈനസിസ് എന്ന ഇന്ത്യാക്കാരന് ലോക കോർപ്പറേറ്റ് മേഖലയിൽ അറിയപ്പെടുന്നത് വ്യക്തിജീവിതത്തിൽ പുലർത്തിയ നിഷ്ഠ കളുടേയും വിനയത്തിന്റേയും സൗഹൃദത്തിന്റേയും പേരിലാണ്. ബിസിനസ് സ്റ്റാൻഡേർഡ് ദിനപത്രത്തിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അനുസ്മരിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് അരവിന്ദ് സുബ്രഹ്മണ്യം എഴുതിയ ലേഖനം അവസാനിക്കുന്നത് ഇങ്ങനെ: '.....അരിസ്റ്റോക്രാറ്റിനെപ്പോലും അസുയാലുവാക്കുന്ന തരം ജീവിതം ജീവിച്ചയാളാണ് എന്റെ സൂഹൃത്ത് ഐവാൻ മൈനസിസ്'.

അത്രയും അരിസ്റ്റോക്രാറ്റിക് ആയിരുന്നു ഐവാൻ. വിജയലഹരി തലയ്ക്കുപിടിയ്ക്കാത്ത ജീവിതം. അഥവാ ജീവിതം തന്നെ ലഹരി.



പി.എസ്. ജയൻ

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