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Riya Business Travel Appoints **Mr. Vinod Subramanian** as the **Chief Executive Officer**

Mr. Vinod Subramanian succeeds the late Mr. Sunil Dhingra as the CEO of Riya Business Travel. He brings with him 28 plus years of experience in sales, marketing, business strategy and general management.



He holds a Masters degree from Jamnalal Bajaj Institute in Marketing Management. He has also completed the 'Senior Management Program' certification from the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta.

His diverse portfolio defines Vinod's strong foundation in the travel industry. He has led Multinationals, viz., Jet Airways Limited, BCD Travel and Lufthansa German Airlines in varied commercial roles, with a strategic and result oriented approach. His passion, professionalism, integrity, strategic thinking and analytical skills have enabled to drive change and build formidable businesses.

His valuable knowledge on the business travel industry, foresightedness, client-oriented focus and recognised success made him a leading choice to steer Riya Business Travel to higher benchmarks.

We welcome Mr. Vinod Subramanian to lead our rapidly growing business travel sector and we wish him great success on this new journey.



Travel Industry Expected to Make Full Recovery by 2025

The global travel industry is expected to make a full recovery by 2025, according to new research from Global Data.

The study found that international departures will reach 68 percent of their pre-COVID-19 levels globally in 2022 and are expected to improve to 82 percent in 2023 and 97 percent in 2024. By 2025, travel is expected to reach 101 percent of 2019 levels with international departures projected to reach 1.5 billion.

The outlook for North America follows these trends.

"International travel from North America had shown improvement in 2021 as international departures grew by 15 percent year-on-year. The U.S. rose to become the world's largest outbound travel market in 2021," said Hannah Free, travel and tourism analyst at GlobalData. "In 2022, outbound departures from North America are projected to reach 69 percent of 2019 levels, before making a full recovery by 2024, at 102 percent of 2019 levels, ahead of other regions."

Europe's recovery matches that of North America.

"International departures from European countries are expected to reach 69 percent of 2019 figures in 2022," said Free. "As travel confidence rebuilds, the intra-European market is expected to benefit, driven by preferences for short-haul travel."

A travel industry recovery is not a guarantee, noted Free.

"Travel recovery must contend with inflation, rising costs of living, and the war in Ukraine," she said. "By 2025, international departures are projected to be 98 percent of 2019 levels. Geographically, the war has not spread beyond Ukrainian borders. However, Russia was the world's fifth largest outbound travel market in 2019, while Ukraine was the 12th. Going forward, limited outbound travel from these countries will hinder Europe's overall tourism recovery."

It is projected that the Asia-Pacific region will lag behind Europe and North America. It's expected that outbound departures from the region will only reach 67 percent of 2019 levels in 2022 due to slower removal of travel restrictions in the region, especially in China, which was the region's largest outbound travel market.

"While global international travel is set to recover to pre-pandemic levels by 2025, tourism demand may look quite different," said Free. "From two years of very limited travel, several long-term shifts and short-term trends have emerged. Consumers are now more likely to pursue authentic experiences, demand personalized travel offerings, blend business and leisure travel, and be more conscious of their overall environmental impact. There is still a long way to go to reach a normal situation. However, a potential full recovery by 2025 at the latest gives good reason for the travel and tourism industry to be optimistic for the future."



There Are Mountains To Climb: Air India CEO & MD

Tata Sons appointed Campbell Wilson as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Air India.

Campbell Wilson has termed his appointment as Air India CEO and MD as a fantastic opportunity to lead a historic airline and mentioned that there are "mountains to climb" in his new stint.

Wilson is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Airlines' wholly-owned subsidiary Scoot Air.

Singapore Airlines (SIA) is a joint venture partner of Tata Group in full service carrier Vistara. On Thursday, Tata Sons had announced the appointment of Wilson as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Air India.

In a communique sent to Scoot employees on Friday, he said, "This afternoon I informed the executive team and your union leaders of my resignation from Scoot and the SIA Group." He said it was by no means an easy decision to leave and SIA was his first professional job and has been his home for the last 26 years.

Wilson noted that across three continents, six countries and more than 12 roles, SIA has accorded him many more opportunities and experiences than he could ever have dreamed of.

"It is especially hard to leave Scoot which, in two chapters, I have had the honour and pleasure of nurturing - together with a wonderful, wonderful group of people, past and present - from a mere spreadsheet to, amongst many other things, the World's Best Long-Haul, Low-Cost Airline," he mentioned.

Through the initial years of start-up and rapid growth, to the depths of aviation's worst-ever crisis and now the accelerating recovery, Scoot has truly been a labour of love, he said.

"But there are other mountains to climb, and I am humbled to have been selected by Air India's board as that airline's new CEO," he mentioned.

"It is a fantastic opportunity to lead a historic airline, now owned by the Tata Group, to new heights, and I am grateful to embark on that exciting challenge with the full blessings of the SIA management team," he noted.

The Tata Group took control of Air India on January 27, after successfully winning the bid for the airline on October 8 last year.



Jet Airways cleared to fly once again, to take flight by this September

The country's aviation regulator, DGCA, has granted the Air Operator Permit (AOP) to Jet Airways, which was grounded over financial woes.

The AOC has paved the way for the airline's comeback with fresh funding, changed ownership, and new management and for it to resume its scheduled commercial operations in India.

Jet Airways intends to recommence commercial operations in the next quarter of this year (July-September 2022), the airline said in a statement.

The AOC was the final step in a comprehensive regulatory and compliance process involving several procedural checks for the airline's operational readiness. The process concluded with the airline having successfully conducted a number of proving flights between 15 May 2022 and 17 May 2022, with key DGCA officials on board. The grant of the AOC revalidates the confidence of the DGCA in the operational preparedness of Jet Airways, the statement said.

"Today marks a new dawn for not just Jet Airways, but also for the Indian aviation industry. We are now on the brink of creating history by bringing India's most-loved airline back to the skies. We will not only live up to the great expectations from brand Jet Airways, but also exceed them in many ways for today's discerning flyers. We are committed to making this an extraordinary success story in Indian aviation and in Indian business. We are grateful to the NCLT, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, and to the DGCA for supporting us at every step of our efforts to revive the airline," Murari Lal Jalan, lead member of the Jalan-Kalrock Consortium, said.

"The 'Joy of Flying' was a tagline for Jet Airways in an earlier era. We are delighted to announce that The Joy is coming back. We are grateful to have received the revalidated AOC, the culmination of months of effort by a fantastic and dedicated team that never wavered in its faith and belief that Jet Airways would fly again, backed by the Jalan-Kalrock Consortium, by the Resolution

Professional, and by a committee of creditors who were equally determined to see Jet fly again," Chief Executive Officer Sanjiv Kapoor said.

Aircraft and fleet plan, network, product and customer value proposition, loyalty program, and other details will be unveiled in a phased manner over the coming weeks. Additional senior management appointments will be unveiled next week, and hiring for operational roles will also now commence in earnest, with former Jet Airways staff getting preference wherever possible, the company said.

The final approval today came less than two weeks after the Ministry of Home Affairs granted security clearance to Jet Airways, paving the way for the airline to relaunch its commercial flight services in the country in the coming months. The security clearance was granted for the proposed changes in the carrier's management control/shareholding pattern and for a scheduled operator permit.



Goa Govt. To Develop Eco-Tourism In Forest Areas

A tourist hub known for its beaches and nightlife, Goa has six wildlife sanctuaries and a national park, most of which are situated in the north-eastern or southern part of the state.

The Goa government will develop eco-tourism in the forest areas and parks of the coastal state, state Minister Vishwajit Rane said. Taking to Twitter, Rane said that discussions were held with officials of the forest department for the development of eco-tourism and to improve infrastructure in wildlife sanctuaries in the state.

“Following discussions with forest dept. officers, we have decided to give thrust to development of forest eco-tourism within forest areas and forest parks. We will improve infrastructure of Dr Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, build camping areas, jungle trails etc.,” the state forest minister tweeted. “We will carry out these activities with guidance from experts in order to ensure that people are more interested in and visit forest parks. Camping areas and jungle trails will be prioritised. We will create an entirely new ecosystem so that we can see the animals within the park,” he said.



COVID-19 update: Indian govt. reduces booster dose gap to 3 months for people travelling abroad

In a recent COVID-19 travel update, the Indian government has said that citizens planning to travel abroad are eligible to get a third (booster) dose of vaccine as soon as three months after their second dose. This announcement comes as a big relief as the time gap for everyone was nine months before the decision.

The announcement was made for the convenience of international travellers who need to meet such requirements imposed by other countries.

Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Health Minister, said that they will bring the required changes in the current Co-WIN platform so that people can book their third doses under the new rules.

"Indian citizens and students travelling overseas can now take the precaution dose as required by the guidelines of the destination country. This new facility will be available soon on the Co-WIN portal".

As of now, a number of nations have made booster doses mandatory for foreign travellers and many European Union countries have the cut-off at nine months, meaning travellers must have taken a vaccine jab in the last 270 days to be allowed to arrive.

According to a group of experts, this decision of reducing the gap would also speed up the booster process.



Football World Cup Trophy Tour Kicks Off Global Journey In Dubai

The football World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola kicked off with a first-stop event in Dubai, where former World Cup winners Iker Casillas and Kaká came together to send the original World Cup Trophy on its journey around the world ahead of the tournament later this year.

“As football fans around the world gear up to support their teams, Coca-Cola is thrilled to offer fans the opportunity to experience the trophy ahead of the tournament,” said Brad Ross, Vice President of Global Sports & Entertainment Marketing and Partnerships at The Coca-Cola Company. “The real magic of the World Cup exists with fans believing in their teams and showcasing their passion for the game.

Starting 15th May, Coca-Cola is inviting fans to a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the most recognised symbol in football and experience the real magic of the world’s largest and most anticipated single-sport event – the football World Cup.

The football World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola will stop in 51 countries and territories, bringing Coca-Cola and football organisation one step closer to the goal of visiting each of the 211 member associations by 2030. For the first time ever, the tour will visit all 32 countries that qualified for the World Cup, inspiring fans across the world through exclusive consumer experiences.

“The football World Cup Trophy is one of the greatest symbols in sport,” said Romy Gai, football organisation’s Chief Business Officer. “Bringing it on tour gives us a unique opportunity to shine a spotlight on the fantastic communities around the world who love the beautiful game. The trophy tour – which will end back in Qatar, our amazing hosts – highlights our commitment to making football truly global as we realise the dreams of our fans and bring the joy and excitement of the World Cup to their doorsteps, together with our long-standing partner Coca-Cola.”

The World Cup winners Iker Casillas and Kaká shared their passion for the game at the first stop event in Dubai.

The World Cup is an iconic competition followed by billions around the world. The football organisation is

committed to providing additional opportunities to have a wider positive social and environmental impact, as well as to setting new benchmarks in the delivery of worldwide sporting and exciting fan-centric programmes, such as the football World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola, as an inspiration for all.

The football World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola has a mission to support the development of sustainability efforts at each location visited by the tour. For the first time, consumer activations will be digitally led by Coca-Cola, reducing waste at each stop on the tour and minimising the consumption of water, energy, materials and other resources.

The Trophy is awarded to the winners but remains in the football organisation’s possession. Made of solid gold and weighing 6.142kg, the trophy depicts two human figures holding the globe aloft. Its current design dates back to 1974. As one of the most recognised sports symbols in the world and a priceless icon, the original World Cup Trophy can only be touched and held by a very select group of people, which includes former winners of the World Cup and heads of state. Because regulations state that the original trophy must remain in the football organisation’s possession and cannot be won outright, the team winning the World Cup retains the authentic trophy temporarily and is then permanently awarded the tournament edition trophy, the Winner’s Trophy (which is gold-plated, rather than solid gold, and engraved with the year, host country and winners of the respective event).

The football World Cup Trophy Tour by Coca-Cola is an extraordinary opportunity for people to take in a piece of football history and share their passion for the sport with each other. The emotions of seeing the original World Cup Trophy will stay in football fans’ memories forever.





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