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VISTARA, SPICEJET, IGI AIRPORT WALK AWAY WITH ACCOLADES AT WINGS INDIA AWARDS

The maiden felicitation ceremony by FICCI aimed to laud the aviation-related companies for their work



TELANGANA IT AND INDUSTRIES MINISTER K.T. RAMA RAO PRESENTS THE AWARD TO THE VISTARA TEAM FOR THE 'MOST PASSENGER FRIENDLY AIRLINE' IN INDIA AT THE WINGS INDIA 2018 AWARDS HELD IN HYDERABAD

By **ARPITA KALA**

Giving aviation related organisations their just due, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) held the maiden edition of Wings India Awards for Excellence in the aviation sector. Professional services network, Deloitte, with its extensive exposure in aviation sector played the 'Knowledge Partner' for the awards. The event was held on March 8 on the sidelines of the ongoing flagship event of the civil aviation ministry, Wings India 2018. The four-day long event kicked off yesterday at the Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad with the theme 'India - Global Aviation Hub'. The programme has a special focus on connecting the cities and towns aimed at increasing the regional connectivity in India.

The winners were felicitated by IT and Industries minister of Telangana, K.T. Rama Rao, Civil Aviation

Secretary, R.N. Choubey, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Usha Padhee and Secretary General of FICCI, Sanjaya Baru.

Meanwhile, at the awards ceremony commercial airline operators Vistara, Air India and SpiceJet walked away with accolades for the 'Most Passenger Friendly Airline' and 'Best Domestic Airline' respectively while the state governments of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Assam and Uttar Pradesh were felicitated for playing a stellar role in the government's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS).

The state of Telangana received the 'Best State with a Dedicated Outlook for the Sector' award at the evening ceremony, which was perfectly timed to support minister K.T. Rama Rao's inaugural address at Wings India 2018 in the morning. He had said, "Besides aviation, Telangana is also a leader in aerospace, aeronautical engineering & sector specific skills." And it looks like the country's busiest airports - Indira Gan-

S. No.	AWARDS	WINNERS
AIRLINES		
1.	Most Passenger Friendly Airline	Vistara
2.	Best Domestic Airline	Air India & SpiceJet
AIRPORT OPERATORS		
3.	Most Sustainable & Green Airport	Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
4.	Best Airport	Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport Pvt Ltd, Mumbai
RCS SPECIFIC AWARDS		
5.	Best Airline & Helicopter under RCS	Alliance Air
6.	Most Pro-active State Government under RCS – Priority Areas	Andaman and Nicobar Islands & Assam
7.	Most Pro-active State Government under RCS – Other than Priority Areas	Uttar Pradesh
8.	Best Airport & Airport Operator under RCS	Jindal Vijaynagar Airport
ANCILLARY SERVICE PROVIDERS (WHEELS TO THE WINGS)		
9.	Best Air Cargo Service Provider	Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management
10.	Best Agency for Providing Aviation Skills & Training	Bird Academy
11.	Best Ground Handling Service Provider	Bird Worldwide Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited
12.	Best MRO Service Provider	Air Works
SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARD		
13.	Best State with a Dedicated Outlook for the Sector	Telangana
14.	Best General Aviation Entity	AR Airways Pvt Ltd, (NSOP)

dhi international Airport, New Delhi and Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai, are doing a stellar job of handling the heavy influx of passengers as well as flights since the former scored 'Most Sustainable & Green Airport' award while the latter bagged the 'Best Airport' at the ceremony.

In an all-inclusive move, the event also had a category of 'Best General Aviation Entity' that was won by India's largest and oldest private jet charter, Club One Air. Joint Secretary of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Usha Padhee also attended a conference for business aviation prior to Wings India 2018, wherein she said that a task force has been formed to take up issues related to general aviation, and efforts would be made to address both policy and regulatory related matters. She said, "Many things have to be put into place (in business aviation sector), which can be addressed in our round table conference this week with the operators that will be moderated by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). So, you can discuss all your grievances." •

**“Besides aviation
Telangana is also a
leader in aerospace,
aeronautical
engineering & sector
specific skills,”
K.T. Rama Rao, IT &
Industries Minister,
Telangana**

Daher Appoints Aviacom as TBM Sales Representative for India

Daher, manufacturer of TBM family of very fast single-engine turboprop aircraft, has appointed Delhi based SRK Aviacom as its TBM area sales representative for India. SRK Aviacom is a provider of professional flight simulators as well as an aircraft and helicopters sales organisation.

Commenting on the appointment, Nicolas Chabbert, Senior Vice President of the Daher Airplane Business Unit, said, "We saw signs of the emergence of market in India for our Very Fast Turboprop TBM. To respond to this potential market we have selected SRK Aviacom as partner as they understood our aircraft and its specificities in addition to 20 years of experience selling light aircraft and helicopters in India."

In his reaction Captain Sanjay Kumar, CEO of SRK Aviacom, said, "I'm confident that my personal experience – more than 20 years of experience in aviation sales including many brand new aircraft in India, with introduction of the first G1000 equipped aircraft – added to a team of young, experienced and dedicated people will generate successful sales results for the Daher TBM." •

–Rohit Srivastava

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Printed at Kala Jyoti Procoess Pvt Ltd,
Hyderabad

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Rolls-Royce

Falcon 9X and 10X are Just 'Rumours' or are They?

Vadim Feldzer, head of global communications at Dassault wants to keep you guessing

By **ARPITA KALA**

While the Dassault Falcon 8X on display at the ongoing Wings India 2018 had created quite a buzz, the question on everyone's mind is – is a Falcon 9X and 10X in the offing? Well, SP's ShowNews caught up with Vadim Feldzer, head of global communications at Dassault, to get the answer.

THE MYTHICAL FALCON

He says, "Well, we have never spoken about the 9X or the 10X. They are just rumours in the market. We are not confirming or denying, we are just saying that the time will come for a great announcement."

However, he did mention that the alleged new addition in the Falcon fleet is yet to be named. "It's an exciting time right now in Dassault because we



are not working or wasting resource on the 6X and at the same time we are working on the newcomer. We've never said it was a 9X or a 10X... so it can even be a 2X... who knows?," he said.

IN PRESENT TIMES

So, with that laid to rest, looks like the Falcon 8X

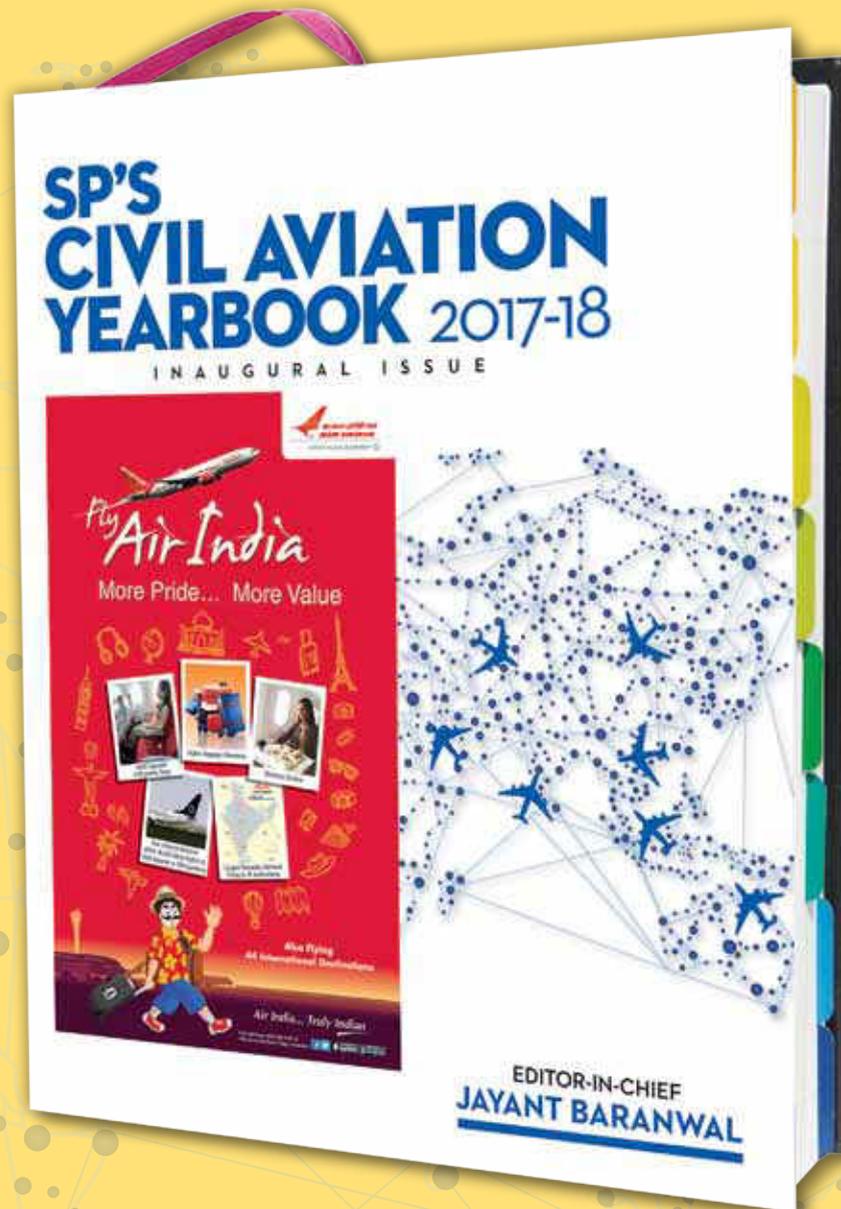
can enjoy topping popularity polls for now. With the cabin size 3.5 ft longer than the 7X, the new Falcon is all about size and more. The improvements to wing design and improved Pratt & Whitney Canada PW300, the 8X is up to 35 per cent more fuel efficient than its competitors. Vadim confirms, "The 8X is our new ultra-long range at Dassault. It's derived from 7X, which has proven to be very popular and we have delivered more than 200 aircraft. So, the 8X comes from 7X, but features more range, more cabin room and more everything." It entered into service in late 2016 but Dassault started the deliveries worldwide in 2017.

The Dassault Falcon is one of the more popular business jets in India and as Vadim says, "One of the first 8X airplane was delivered in India. So far, we have received very good feedback from the customers." •

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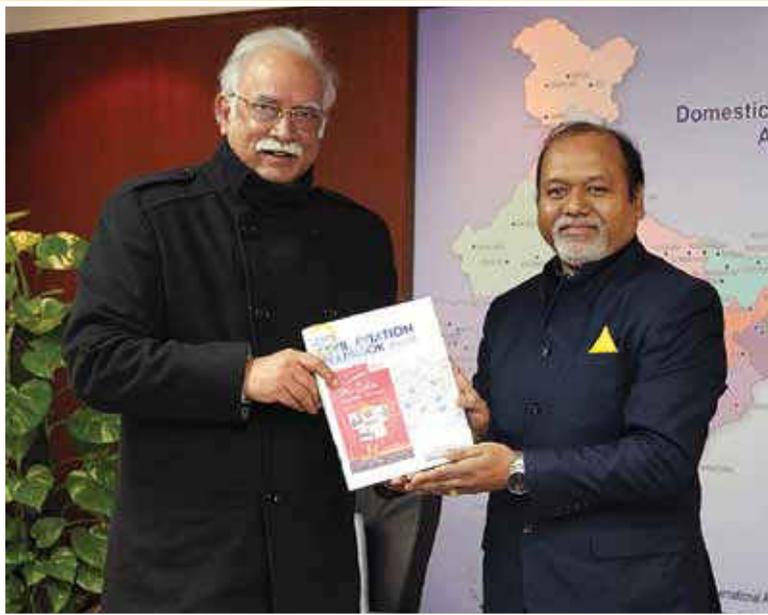
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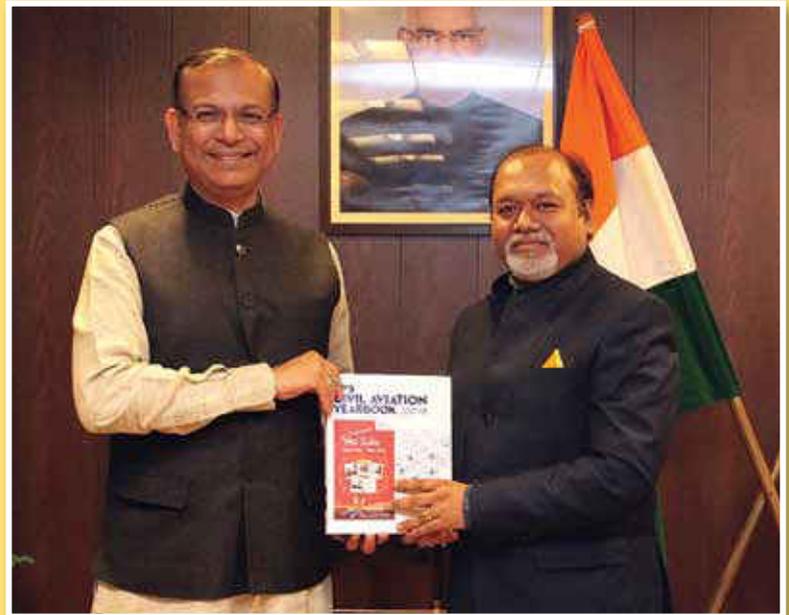


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SP Guide Publications premier publication on civil aviation **SP's Civil Aviation Yearbook (SP's CAYB)** was released by the **Union Minister of Civil Aviation P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju**.



Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha receiving a copy of **SP's Civil Aviation Yearbook** from Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of SP Guide Publications Jayant Baranwal.

TESTIMONIALS

"Finally it has arrived."

— **P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation**

"It's a Handy Book."

— **Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Civil Aviation**

I am in receipt of the SP Guide Publications' Inaugural Issue of Civil Aviation Year Book 2017-18. The diagonal flip-through assured me of the quality of the publication and the assurance to be a resourceful reading. Thanks for sending me a copy of the Issue.

— **S. Raheja, Member (Planning), Airports Authority of India**

The yearbook is excellent. Kudos to you and your team!

We finally have a world class yearbook on our cherished civil aviation sector... The role of the media is key in shaping public policy, highlighting success stories and pointing out areas of improvement. We appreciate the marvelous job done by SP Publications over decades.

We wish you the very best!

— **Amber Dubey, Partner and Head, Aerospace and Defense, KPMG in India**

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Pratt & Whitney Supports India Aviation Skill Development with Newly Certified GTF Engine Courses at Hyderabad Training Center



Pratt & Whitney, a division of United Technologies Corp., during Wings India 2018 announced its Pratt & Whitney PW1100G-JM Geared Turbofan™ (GTF) and V2500 engine technical training courses have been certified by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has certified the GTF training as well, complementing the DGCA certification of V2500-A5 training obtained in early 2017. The certified courses will take place at the Pratt &

Whitney Customer Training Center in Hyderabad, India and will provide enhanced opportunities for aviation skill development.

"Pratt & Whitney has had a strong presence in India for more than 70 years, and this program brings the latest in aerospace technology and training closer to our customers in the region," said Palash Roy Chowdhury, Country Manager, Pratt & Whitney, United Technologies Corporation India. "We're honored to be able to deliver world-class training programmes that will help create

skilled aviation talent within India."

The Hyderabad Training Center has a capacity of 5,000 student days per year. In addition, in support of the government of India's national skills development campaign, 'Skill India', Pratt & Whitney will offer customised training for students as well as development programmes for college and university faculty members.

"With the Hyderabad Training Center, we bring hands on, live, world-class aerospace training closer to our customers in this high-growth region," said Bruce Hall, General Manager, Customer Training, Pratt & Whitney. "We are proud to deliver training programs that will help create a more skilled local aviation talent pool and support India in becoming a leader in the global aviation industry."

Pratt & Whitney has established three training centers in East Hartford, Connecticut, Beijing, China and Hyderabad, India, to enhance the skills of the aerospace workforce throughout the world. The training centers provide instruction in general engine familiarisation, line and base maintenance and borescope inspection training for Pratt & Whitney's portfolio of products, including the revolutionary GTF engine.

The V2500 engine is offered through International Aero Engines AG, a multinational aero engine consortium whose shareholders comprise Pratt & Whitney, a division of United Technologies Corporation; Pratt & Whitney Aero Engines International GmbH; Japanese Aero Engines Corporation; and MTU Aero Engines GmbH. •

Dornier in a New 'Civil' Avatar

By **ROHIT SRIVASTAVA**

Government's push for regional air connectivity is providing opportunities for exploitation of the latent potential across the sector. One of the major success stories in this regard is conversion of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Do-228-201 multi-purpose light transport aircraft, operational with Indian armed forces, into a 19 seater turbo prop commuter aircraft. The aircraft received its type certification by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in 2017.

UDAN-Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), which was launched as part of the National Civil Aviation Policy 2016, which envisions enhancing regional connectivity through a market-based mechanism in which airlines bid for seat subsidies.

HAL believes that Do-228-201 'Upgraded' (civil) is one of the most suitable aircraft for this scheme as it has a proven record of operation from more than 100 regional airports across the length and breadth of the Country.

Till date, HAL has produced more than 138 Do-228 aircraft which are operational with various operators within the country and abroad. The Upgraded turbo prop, powered by TPE-331-10, and five bladed composite propellers for enhanced hot and high performance and reduced cabin



noise. Standard avionics are complemented with autopilot, weather radar as well as other customer desired equipment fit. HAL is planning to introduce glass cockpit in the aircraft.

Do-228 is operational with Indian Air Force, Coast Guard and Navy in various configuration like commuter, VIP transport, search and rescue, maritime surveillance, airport calibration, troop transport, air ambulance, para jump, para drop, observer training. Keeping with the military version, the civil Dornier can also configure, within one hour, into 19 seater to air ambulance or any other seat configuration, providing much required flexibility to its operators.

Some of the key features of the aircraft are economical fuel consumption of 245 kg/hr and cruise speed of 370 kmph. It needs 576 metres for land-

ing and 762 metres for landing. The total payload carrying capacity is to the tune of 1.9 tonne. The high wing design of aircraft permits it to operate from semi prepared runways, the aircraft can take off and land from all the regional airports in India.

The 'Upgraded' version is equipped with new high powered engine TPE-331-10 GP and 5 bladed composite propellers for enhanced hot and high performance and reduced cabin noise. Standard avionics are complemented with autopilot, weather radar as well as other customer desired equipment fit.

HAL feels that the in-house capability to provide maintenance, repair and overhaul facilities to the operators at Kanpur guarantees lifetime support for maintenance, spares, tools and testers, documentation, training as well as modification, upgrades and customisation to prospective customers all under one roof within the country.

Unlike other aircrafts of its class, HAL plans to provide Do-228 with flush toilet facility. Along with 19 passengers, the standard civil aircraft will carry 120 kg in front loading area and 210 kg in rear loading area. In its air ambulance configuration it is expected to carry two stretchers with additional seats for paramedic staff. In its executive transport version the aircraft will have 11 deluxe seats and working tables and other amenities for passengers. HAL is holding discussion with few customers for sale of this aircraft. •

Hyderabad International Airport Spearheading Digitisation



By **ROHIT SRIVASTAVA**

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Lt. (GHIAL), declared world's No.1 airport in Airport Service Quality (ASQ) passengers survey by the Montreal based Airports Council International (ACI), is working on a proof of concept for facial recognition, first of its kind at any Indian airport. The technology requires onetime biometric registration of the user, post which the bonafide user can access the airport terminal simply by looking at the camera positioned at the check points across the terminal entry gates.

Commenting on the GHIAL's digitalisation efforts, S.G.K. Kishore, CEO, GHIAL said, "We have pioneered e-boarding facility and played a pivotal role in the elimination of Hand Baggage Stamping.

In the coming days, we will be rolling out a pilot project to enable 100 per cent paperless travel through our airport, using the biometric identification of a passenger to replace both the ticket as well as the boarding card. As we embark on the expansion of the airport, our vision is to make the upgraded and expanded Hyderabad Airport into the first fully tech-enabled Smart Airport in the country."

GHIAL is a joint venture company promoted by the GMR Group (63%) in partnership with Airports Authority of India (13%), Government of Telangana (13%) and Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (11%). The airport was commissioned in a record time of 31 months and inaugurated on March 14, 2008, with an initial capacity of 12 million passengers per annum (MPPA).

The ACI award was given in the five to 15 million passengers per annum (MPPA) category for the year 2017.

Applauding the recognition Srinivas Bommidala, Chairman-Airports, GMR Group, said, "This is a recognition of the collaborative work of all stakeholders at Hyderabad Airport. As we witness robust traffic growth, we look forward to a strong collaboration and support of all airport stakeholders and partners. We are embarking on the expansion of Hyderabad Airport, which will not just provide necessary infrastructure boost to facilitate high air traffic and passenger growth, but also a delightful passenger experience with right fusion of technology and human touch."

It has been ranked as the best airport in 2009, 2010, 2011, second best in 2012 and 2013 and third best in 2014. •

Soft launch of Kannur International Airport in June



The upcoming Kannur International Airport is ready for soft launch in coming June. The is the second greenfield airport setup in the public-private partnership (PPP) model in civil aviation infrastructure sector in Kerala. With six aerobridge, 48 check-in counters and 16 emigration, immigration and customs counters, the airport expects to start with around two million passenger traffic. The building has been designed to cater to nine million passengers.

Speaking to *SP's ShowNews*, K.S. Shibu Kumar, Chief Project Engineer, Kannur International Airport, said, "This will cater to whole of north Malabar from Kozhikode to Mysore."

It is part of the UDAN scheme, it will be connected to 12 airports of India. About 20 national and international airlines have expressed interest in operating from Kannur. It will also enhance the tourism potential of North Malabar for tourism spots like Bekal, Wayanad, Coorg and Mysore. •

—Rohit Srivastava

Why Nobody Wants Vijay Mallya's Corporate Jet Airbus A319

By **ARPITA KALA**

Despite best efforts, it looks like MIAL (Mumbai International Airport Limited) may not be seeing the last of businessman Vijay Mallya's uber luxe private jet that has been parked in one of the hangars since December 2013. The Airbus A319, priced at \$89.6 million as of 2015, is fitted with furnishings to the tune of \$90 million. And, that includes one full bedroom, a gilded bathroom, bar and even a board meeting space.

NO PLACE TO GO

In recent developments, Bombay HC directed the Official Liquidator of Karnataka HC to remove the controversial jet by February 26, while hearing the motion moved by MIAL seeking parking charges of about ₹3.5 crore for the same. Not only that, the bench hearing the submissions seemed to imply that the jet was an eye-sore. Justice Dharmadhikari reportedly said, "It does not augur well for India to display this private jet to international travellers. We are of the opinion that you must make all possible arrangements to

remove this aircraft as expeditiously as possible."

The Service Tax department has made three unsuccessful attempts to auction the confiscated Airbus 319 with the set reserve price of ₹152 crore. In the first attempt, a Dubai-based company had offered ₹1 crore, which was turned down and then there were slightly dubious claims of having won the bid by one G.S. Srivastava, Chairman of SGI Commex. Requests for a statement from his son Mehar Srivastava, additional director of the said company, went unanswered.

EXPERTS SPEAK

Taking into account the depreciation, since the aircraft was manufactured over a decade ago, and the financial investment needed to make the plane 'air-worthy' again, the rigid reserve price of ₹152 crore may have put off interested buyers. Rohit Kapur, president, Business Aircraft Operators Association (BAOA) agrees. He told us, "I'm not buying it (laughing), everything has takers at the right price. I think the banks have not been able to figure out the right price. It is an aircraft that has been sitting on ground for two to three years in the

open, in an environment which supports corrosion. I don't know if someone has done an evaluation of the jet to see how much it is actually worth."

And that seems to be the popular opinion with Kanika Tekriwal of private plane aggregator Jet-SetGo vehemently shaking the thought of buying the plane when asked. "No! No! No way, I think it's rotten and it's going to die very soon. I also think it's not priced correctly and is completely spoilt. It will take a lot of money to overhaul and fly it, probably a year of repair. So, I would rather buy something new than invest money in something like that." Oh well, that's one less buyer for the jet.

And according to Kapur, all that jazz just doesn't cut it either, if the authorities really want to get their money's worth from the plane. "Just to say that it's an Airbus corporate jet which you can buy for \$15 million is not right, for all you know that aircraft may be worth \$5 million and it may take you another \$30 million to put it back in the air. Everything has a buyer at the correct price. They need to get a professional evaluator and then need to put it out in the market, I don't know if they've done that but unless you price it right, nobody is going to buy it." •

HONDA



HondaJet is thankful to be the most delivered jet in its category in 2017.



With the accolades and accomplishments collected over the years, we are proud to announce yet another milestone: the HondaJet is the most-delivered jet in its category in 2017. This deserves extending our thanks to all who had the vision to make this possible, including our customers who we are proud to have welcomed into the HondaJet family over the past year. And now we look forward to 2018.



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