

Aviation policy and 5/20

Rajeev Nayan Choubey, Secretary, Civil Aviation, Government of India, shares with TRAVTALK details about the national civil aviation policy and 5/20 rule.

 NISHA VERMA

While much anticipation surrounds the national civil aviation policy, the debate around the 5/20 rule continues until it is finally released. Busting all the questions surrounding the same, Choubey, said, "The civil aviation policy will be finalised by the end of April. The final policy will have very clear cut decisions with regards to 5/20 rule. There will be no ambiguity in this regard."

Our growth has been 25 per cent in February, as compared to last year. Nowhere any other country has witnessed this kind of growth. While our domestic sector is booming, the growth of international sector is a little less at around 12 per cent. But, it still is very high as compared to most of the countries. We are currently facing the challenges of growth, and I am glad that we

are meeting these challenges very well."

What is 5/20?

➔ The 5/20 rule, in its meaning, restricts companies from flying abroad unless they have flown in India for five years and have a fleet size of 20 aircraft



Rajeev Nayan Choubey
Secretary
Civil Aviation, Government of India

Air India has been doing very well financially and has made operational profits. They are also augmenting the fleet significantly, allowing them to increase their services both in international and domestic markets

Speaking at the launch of Air India's Delhi-Vienna flight, he rebuked reports of the government divesting its stake in Air India. He claimed that the government has no plans to privatise the national carrier and that Air India is actually showing profits after 10 years. "I would like to compliment Air India for making Vienna as the gateway for Central and Eastern Europe. Air India has been doing very well financially and has made operational profits. They are also augmenting the fleet significantly, allowing them to increase their services both in international and domestic markets," he said.

Ecstatic about the growth of aviation sector in India, he claimed, "Today, India is the fastest growing civil aviation sector in terms of passengers.

Travelport and easyJet announce new long-term agreement

easyJet and Travelport have announced a new long-term agreement that allows Travelport-connected agencies access to easyJet's content through the Travel Commerce Platform.

In addition, easyJet will continue to use Travelport's Rich Content and Branding solution which enables easyJet to more effectively display and merchandise its full range of fares, including business traveller friendly products such as Inclusive and Flexi Fares.

Robin Ranken, Travelport's

Head of Airline Commerce Europe, said, "For eight years now, Travelport has helped increase sales among corporations, travel management companies and travel agencies, and expanded easyJet's reach in new and existing markets."

Sandeep Dwivedi, Chief Commercial Officer, ITQ, said, "It is indeed a pleasure to see more and more airlines signing up with Travelport Rich Content and Branding. It reiterates how it is offering competitive merchandising and distribution advantages



Sandeep Dwivedi
Chief Commercial Officer
InterGlobe Technology Quotient (ITQ)

to the airlines. With renewal of this contract, we look forward to exploring further opportunities with easyJet."

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