

= AirAsia India =

AirAsia India is an Indian low cost carrier headquartered in Chennai , India . The airline is a joint venture with AirAsia Berhad holding 49 % stake in the airline , Tata Sons holding 40 @. @ 06 % and Arun Bhatia holding the remaining 10 % through his company , Telestra Tradeplace . Air Asia India commenced operations on 12 June 2014 with Bangalore as its primary hub .

AirAsia is the first foreign airline to set up a subsidiary in India and the company marked Tata 's return to the aviation industry after 60 years , having ceded Air India in 1946 . As of February 2016 , AirAsia India is the third largest low cost carrier in India , after IndiGo and SpiceJet with a market share of 2 @. @ 2 % .

= = History = =

In February 2013 , with the Indian government allowing a foreign direct investment of up to 49 % in airlines , AirAsia Berhad applied to the Indian Foreign Investment Promotion Board ( FIPB ) seeking approval for commencing its operations in India . In March 2013 , AirAsia announced that it would establish a joint venture with Tata Sons and Telestra Tradeplace with Tata Sons representing the airline with two non @-@ executive directors in the board . The airliner planned to operate with the world 's lowest unit cost of ? 1 @. @ 25 ( 1 @. @ 9 ¢ US ) per available seat Kilometre and a passenger break @-@ even load factor of 52 % . It also planned to hedge 100 % of its fuel requirements for the first three years and to achieve an aircraft turnaround time of 25 minutes .

AirAsia planned to begin operations to various tier 2 and tier 3 cities with Chennai International Airport as its main operating base . According to KPMG , the introduction of AirAsia was expected to cause another price war , ultimately leading to an increase in air traffic and some consolidation in the Indian aviation sector . AirAsia initially invested an amount of US \$ 50 million and in preparation for its operations in India , it struck deals with online and offline travel agents . On 3 March 2013 , the FIPB officially permitted AirAsia to rent or lease aircraft and to carry cargo on its scheduled flights . The airline then applied for permission to schedule aircraft and transport passengers , which the FIPB accepted on 6 March .

AirAsia India was established on 28 March 2013 and became the first foreign airline to set up a subsidiary in India . In April , the airline started recruiting candidates for pilots and cabin crew . As the final procedure to obtain Air Operator Permit , a proving flight was conducted on 1 and 2 May 2014 flying from Chennai to Kochi , Bangalore and Kolkata . On 7 May 2014 , the DGCA issued an Air Operator Permit to the company . On 30 May 2014 , the airline announced the shifting of its base to Bangalore and its first flight from there to Goa . AirAsia operated its maiden flight on 12 June 2014 . In June 2015 , the airline made Indira Gandhi International Airport , Delhi its secondary hub for North Indian operations . In August 2015 , Tata Sons increased its stake to 40 @. @ 06 % from 30 % earlier by injecting fresh equity while Telestra 's share was reduced to 10 % from 20 % . As of February 2016 , AirAsia India is the fourth largest low cost carrier in India , far behind IndiGo , SpiceJet and GoAir , with a market share of 2 @. @ 2 % .

= = Corporate affairs = =

AirAsia India is headquartered in Chennai , India . Prior to the airline 's formation , Tony Fernandes , founder of AirAsia group , announced that he would like Ratan Tata to be the chairman of the airline ; however the latter refused , though he later consented to being the chief advisor to the AirAsia India management board . On 15 May 2013 , AirAsia India appointed management consultant Mittu Chandilya as CEO . A month later , on 17 June , S. Ramadorai , the non @-@ executive vice @-@ chairman of Tata Consultancy Services , was appointed as the chairman of the airline . In April 2016 , Amar Abrol replaced Mittu Chandilya as the CEO of the airline .

= = Destinations = =

AirAsia India currently operates to the following destinations in India .

= = Fleet = =

The airline 's first Airbus A320 @-@ 200 was delivered to Chennai International Airport on 22 March 2014 . The airline has received in @-@ principle approval to import ten A320 @-@ 200 aircraft . On 21 March 2015 , AirAsia India unveiled its fourth aircraft with a livery dedicated to aviation pioneer JRD Tata and the aircraft was christened as The Pioneer . The sixth aircraft in the fleet joined in November and was registered as VT @-@ APJ in honour of APJ Abdul Kalam , former President of India .