



'GIVING WINGS TO DREAMS' 2024 AWARDEES

WOMEN AWARDEES

AIRLINES - Ground Support

Ms. Radhika Dey
Airport Manager
SNV Aviation Private Limited (Akasa Air)

With more than 20 years of experience in Airport Operations, Ms. Radhika excels in Airport Management and Customer Experience. Currently heading Lucknow Airport as an Airport Manager, Radhika plays a pivotal role in managing Airport Operations at Lucknow Airport.

Ms. Maninder Kaur
Sr. Manager Operations
Alliance Air Aviation Limited

Ms. Maninder Kaur has successfully formulated/revised 24 SOPs including critical airfields for Alliance Air. A certified IATA Safety Risk Manager she has made her recognition in a short span of time.

Ms. Shalaka Damle
Airport Manager
SNV Aviation Private Limited (Akasa Air)

Ms. Shalaka has a rich experience of more than 20 years in Airport Operations. She has been instrumental in setting up of Airport Operations at Mumbai and Pune Airport for Akasa Air.

Ms. Esha Reddy
Dy Chief Airport Operations
Blue Dart Aviation

Currently, heading the Air Network, Ms. Esha is the Deputy Chief of Airport Operations handling 8 Blue Dart Aviation stations. She was closely involved in the successful induction of B 737 800 freighters and instrumental in setting Guwahati station providing a gateway for connections to the Northeast of India.



AIRLINES – Pilots

Capt. Urmila Yadav
Commander
Alliance Air Aviation Limited

Due to her exceptional flying skills and judgement, Capt. Urmila saved the lives of 48 passengers and 5 crew members of flight AI-9670. The aircraft lost one front wheel mid-air, and she managed to land the plane at LGBI airport Guwahati. A cancer warrior, Capt. Urmila is defeating the evil and still flying high with her courage and never say die attitude.

Ms. Karishma Sabharwal
First Officer | Flight Operations
IndiGo

Ms. Karishma is commendable not only as a disciplined Pilot of IndiGo but also in being a socially responsible person. Supporting the vision of our Honorable Prime Minister of-Reduce, Reuse and Recycle of waste, she formed a NPO – “Center for Innovation policy and Social Change” and runs her own Non-Profit Organization in Lucknow.

AIRLINES - Cabin Crew

Ms. Aarti Soni
Lead Cabin Attendant | Inflight Services
IndiGo

A real hero, Ms. Aarti Soni assisted Mr. Rishi Kambathan (AOCS Staff - MAA) during an accident, who has benefited from the Samaritan act of Aarti that helped him survive. Aarti truly reflects Indigo's spirit of GirlPower.

Ms. Priyanka Singh
Lead Cabin Crew
Interglobe Aviation Limited

With 7 years’ experience in the aviation industry, Ms. Priyanka has served the nation and operated multiple flights during Vande Bharat mission. She also operated chartered flights in international destinations to bring back the stranded citizens during the Ukraine and Russia war.



AIRLINES - Flight Dispatchers

Ms. Indira Gokaraju
Operations Manager
Mytri Aviation Pvt. Ltd.

With over 25 years of experience in the aviation industry, Ms. Indira has gained comprehensive expertise in both domestic and international flight operations. She was the first female officer at INS DEGA, Vishakhapatnam, the first female flight dispatcher at Kingfisher Airlines in Hyderabad and broke new ground as the first female employee at Qatar Amiri Flight (OCC). She is also the first Female Operations Manager at Mytri Aviation ensuring seamless and safe airline operations.

AIRLINES - Security

Ms. Pronoti Grewal
Regional Security Manager - North
SNV Aviation Private Limited (Akasa Air)

Ms. Pronoti comes with over 20 years of experience in Security and is currently based out of Delhi, looking after all North and East, Airports. She is currently assisting the Chief Security Officer of Akasa Air in forming policies and procedures which has helped maintain and improve the security standards at Akasa Air network Airports.

Ms. Nazma Parveen
Officer Security
Alliance Air Aviation Limited

Having 9 years of experience in Aviation Security, dealing with all aspects involving Aircraft, Passengers & Employees, Ms. Nazma intercepted a passenger having counterfeit (Malaysian) passport at IGI airport in 2016 and a passenger carrying drugs at Kullu Airport in 2022.

(not present)

Ms. Saswati Deb Kalita
Supervisor Security
Alliance Air Aviation Limited

On 15th Oct 2024, during screening at Guwahati Airport, Ms. Saswati detected ammunition (01 Live Bullet & 03 Dead Bullets in Passenger's checked -in- Baggage and was appreciated by the local police and CSO for her exceptional work.



AIRPORTS - Airside Design & Construction

Ms. Sithara Chandran
Deputy General Manager - Airside Design
Larsen & Toubro Limited

Ms. Sithara, a passionate Civil Engineer, with over 16 years of experience, has made significant contributions to major airport development projects in India, both greenfield and brownfield. She successfully led the Design team to deliver the Airfield and Landside infrastructure designs of Bhogapuram International Airport project, Bhogapuram in record time of 120 days.

AIRPORTS - Airside Operations

Ms. Pallavi Priya
Associate Manager
Delhi International Airport Ltd.

Ms. Pallavi has total over 13 years experience in aviation, wherein she has significantly contributed to operations at IGI Airport as part of Aerodrome Operator, and was associated with AOCC for 9 years. She is trained and certified in Aeronautical Information Services (AIS), ACI- Safety Management System, AviPlan Airside Pro Software (Airside Planning & Design) and ICAO Advanced Annex 14.

AIRPORTS – Exceptional Passenger Service at the Airport

Ms. Ekta Ghosh
Chief Digital Officer
Adani Airports Holding Limited

With rich experience in Aviation Technology, Ms. Ekta Ghosh has spearheaded digital transformation across global airports, airlines and travel transport companies. In her current role she is leading strategic initiatives across 8 airports in India, focusing on tech innovation at the helm of business strategy. She has already deployed DigiYatra across 9 Airports in India, is spearheading an industry leading initiative called aviio and is also building an Airport data Model, a first of its kind.

Ms. K. Sathyabhama Nair (Late)
Head - Service Quality, Training & Standards
Bangalore International Airport Limited

Ma'am was a visionary leader who spearheaded the day-to-day Airport Customer Experience at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru. Her contribution to the aviation industry will be remembered for her unwavering commitment to customer experience excellence.



AIRPORTS – FINANCE

Mrs. V. Vidya

Member

***Airport economic regulatory authority (AERA) [former ED finance & JVC AAI]
Government of India (formerly AAI)***

The first woman Member of the Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA), Mrs. V. Vidya has been one of the most vital cogs in AAI's revenue earnings and management. As the Lead in JVC & Tariff matters, she has contributed majorly to the determination of tariff proposals of all Major AAI airports for the control period.

Dr. Shreya Sharma

Bench Officer

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India

Dr. Shreya Sharma has an outstanding contribution in regulation of Airport economics, as she effectively handled the litigation pertaining to Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) in the Appellant Tribunal (TDSAT) as well as in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Smt. Sonia Sahni

Assistant Section Officer (ASO)

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA)

Smt. Sonia Sahni is the only ASO posted in the Tariff Division and simultaneously reporting to the officers of three sub-sets of Tariff Division and has been instrumental in timely commencement of the tendering exercise for appointment of consultants for monitoring of performance standards at the airports.

AIRPORTS - Fire Rescue

Ms. Disha Naik

Fire Fighter

GMR Goa International Airport Ltd.

Ms. Disha Naik became the first lady fire fighter to drive Crash Fire Tender in India. Being the first lady fire fighter in the state of Goa, she has been awarded by the Fire & Security Association of India.



AIRPORTS - Terminal Operations

Ms. K. Kasthuri

***Assistant General Manager (Engg-Civil)
Airports Authority of India***

Ms. K. Kasthuri has been working with Airports Authority of India for the past 24 years and has to her credit several achievements including a letter of commendation from Airport Director for executing the work of Runway, taxiway recarpeting and Apron strengthening at Tuticorin Airport within 11 days. She has also conducted Environment awareness programme through Environment Management Cell (EMC) for 1000 employees of AAI, Ground handling and housekeeping staff of Chennai Airport alongside an awareness programme on POSH act.

Ms. Usha Devi. T.P

**DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER-CIVIL ENGINEERING
COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED**

With an incredible 30 experience of 30 years in the industry, Ms. Usha Devi T.P. started her career in Cochin International Airport as assistant engineer and is presently holding the position of Deputy General Manager-Civil Engineering. She is also one of the directors of Cochin International Aviation Services Limited (CIASL) and the chairperson of internal complaint committee/women's grievance redressal committee, CIAL.

Ms. Payal Gautam

***Head - General Aviation
Adani Airport Holdings Ltd.***

Ms. Payal Gautam has steered Mumbai's general aviation terminal to an extraordinary revenue growth in two years with enhanced service levels. She has worked extensively on the design blueprint for New Mumbai airport where Airport Holding Limited (AAHL) intends to make a one-of-its kind Fixed based Operation (FBO) expanding general aviation to a single stop solution facility.

AIRPORTS - Operations

Ms. Nayonika Sharma

***Lead, Flight Operations
Yamuna International Airport Pvt. Ltd.***

Ms. Nayonika was one of the youngest ATCs to become a certified instructor and has trained approximately 200 ATCOs for four runway operations at IGI, first of its kind in the country. She has spearheaded some path breaking projects in the challenging venture of setting up the Greenfield Noida International Airport (NIA).



AVIATION AUTHORITIES - CISF

Ms. Bijendri Thakur
LADY CONSTABLE
MAA DANTESHWARI AIRPORT JAGDALPUR

Ms. Bijendri Thakur is the 1st person in Chhattisgarh police department who is qualified in basic AVSEC, certified screener and dangerous goods and regulation courses mandatory as per Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). She is also a recipient of CM's award for her duties at the airport.

Ms. Nusrat Rashid
Lady Constable, CISF

A lady constable working at ASG Cochin, Ms. Nusrat Rashid displayed exemplary alertness and dedication that caused her to detect gold paste being smuggled during screening and it shows her professionalism and responsibility towards her duty.

AVIATION AUTHORITIES - DGCA

Ms. Meenu Kapil
Director
DGCA

Ms. Meenu Kapil's profile is that of Aircraft Engineering Directorate works as Chairman of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of DGCA, MoCA and AERA and is the Nodal Officer of the portal of Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Ms. Ekta Agrawal
Deputy Director
DGCA

Ms. Ekta Agrawal works as Deputy Director (Aviation Environment Unit) in the office of DGCA, in the area of sustainability and environmental issues in aviation both at domestic and international level. She is the first woman DGCA instructor for CORSIA and the Nodal point for Sustainable Aviation Fuel in India from Civil Aviation. Ms. Ekta has received appreciation from ICAO, EASA, and various other agencies for contribution in the field of emerging issues.

Capt. Poonam Devrakhyani
Flight Operations Inspector (Aeroplanes)
DGCA

With over 8000 hours of flight experience and a passion for advancing aviation safety, innovation, and sustainability, Capt. Poonam Devrakhyani has dedicated her career to raising the standards of aviation excellence. She is a recipient of UDAN Young Women Achiever Award (2019) for aviation safety and the INSC Young Achiever Award (2024) for research in AI-driven flight safety.



AVIATION AUTHORITIES - Pawanhans

Capt. Reena Varughese
Captain
Pawanhans Limited

Capt. Reena Varughese has been flying Dauphin AS 365 N in Pawan Hans Limited for more than seven years. Her timely action in evacuating an injured constable during an anti-Maoist operation on 21st Oct 2024, saved a life and boosted the morale of the security forces.

AVIATION - Legal

Ms. Shilpa Bhatia
Company Secretary, Legal Officer & EA to CEO
Alliance Air Aviation Limited

Ms. Shilpa Bhatia is an associate member of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and possesses more than 8 years of experiences in secretarial and legal matters.

SUPPORT SERVICES - Administration

Ms. Karishma Pashana
Chief of Staff
Millennium Aero Dynamics Private Limited

Ms. Karishma Pashana has played a vital role in securing several significant civil and military contracts for Millennium Aero Dynamics Private Limited. Notable partnerships include those with Bird Flight Services, IndiGo, the Indian Air Force, Air India Airport Services Limited, and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, among others.

Ms. Rajashree Gunjal
Sr. Manager- Corporate Travel
Millennium Aero Dynamics Pvt. Ltd.

With 13 years of experience in managing travel desk, Ms. Rajashree Gunjal has framed and channelized new travel policy and platform, promoted new upcoming & existing Airlines not only on domestic but on international sectors and effectively managed travel disruptions during COVID.

Ms. Pratima Thakar
Vice President - Air Contracting, Holidays, Corporate and GCC
MakeMyTrip

Ms. Pratima Thakar has more than 21 years of professional experience and has played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of airline partnerships and travel services. A champion for diversity and inclusion within the workplace, she has advocated for initiatives that support underrepresented groups in the travel sector and has been instrumental in forging strong alliances with airlines.



SUPPORT SERVICES - Marketing & Communication

Ms. Geetika Seth

***Sales Manager Emirates Airlines, West Bengal
Emirates Airlines***

With over 35 years of accomplished experience spanning Sales, Marketing, Key Account Management, Advertising, Administration, and Regional Operations, Ms. Geetika Seth has consistently delivered exceptional results. She has grown the Brand Emirates in Eastern Region with the Travel Trade and Corporates and introduced First Class product, only Airline offering same west bound operations.

PIONEERS

Capt. Poonam Gaur

Co-Founder & Director

Air taxi (Aviation Connectivity & Infrastructure Developers Pvt. Ltd.)

Captain Poonam Gaur stands out as a trailblazer in the aviation industry, embodying a journey marked by remarkable achievements and unwavering dedication. She Co-founded Air Taxi Services to improve air connectivity in India, aiming to boost economic growth and regional development.

Wing Cdr. Vidhu Singh (Retd)

Dy Chief of Flight Safety

Pawan Hans Ltd

Wing Commander Vidhu Singh (Retd.) has pioneered as Woman Officer in Fighter Aircraft Maintenance and Aero Space Safety at Indian Air Force with an elaborate experience in Aerospace Safety, Aircraft maintenance and People Management gained through 17 years of cross-functional management experience and leadership roles.

She is the first woman Aircraft Accident Investigator of Mirage - 2000 fleet at Indian Air Force and proved her mettle during Balakot Air Strike operations in Feb 2019 by undertaking record production of Mirage -2000 aircraft and Electronic Warfare spares with least possible resources and time."



STUDENT AWARDEES

Strengthening our mission of encouraging the young girls to explore the various avenues in Aviation, 35 selected school girls who had attended Girls in Aviation Day events held across the country this year & had appeared for an essay competition were rewarded as Young Aviation Ambassadors, along with sponsorship for courses related to the travel & aviation industry.

Name	Station	School Name
PUSHPANJALI GOUDA	Orissa	RAMADEVI WOMENS H.S SCHOOL
ANANYA JYOTI ROUTRAY	Orissa	NA (CLASS XI, SEC A)
DEVA SWINEE JENA	Orissa	NA (CLASS XI Science)
ANKITA PRIYADARSINI SWAIN	Orissa	RAMADEVI WOMENS H.S SCHOOL
IRUM QAYOOM	Srinagar	WOMEN'S POLYTECHNICAL COLLEGE
FIZA NASEER	Srinagar	NSTI
KHUSHI KUMARI	Chandigarh	GGMSS
SIMARAN	Chandigarh	GGMSS
POOJA	Agra	EK PAHAL PATHSHALA
SUMAN	Agra	EK PAHAL PATHSHALA
SHEFA SAKLI	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
SALONI PATHAK	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
TANU KUMARI	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
SUHANA PARVIN	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
RUCHI RAI	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
TARA	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
HIMANSHI YADAV	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL



TULSI THAKUR	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
ROSHNI KUMARI	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
AAYUSHI SINHA	Gurgaon	VIDYA SCHOOL
RAJI JOSHI	Jaipur	BVB VIDYASHRAM
JANVI SHARMA	Jaipur	Subodh Public School, Rambagh Jaipur
NAVYA MEENA	Jaipur	Riya International School
Arika Anitha	Srikakulam	GOVT Degree College
J Gangotri	Srikakulam	GOVT College
P Nagamani	Srikakulam	GOVT College
Yerra Akhila	Srikakulam	GOVT College for Women
Yelthuri Jyoshna	Srikakulam	GOVT College for Women
P. Suseela	Srikakulam	GOVT Degree College
SPURTHY	Hyderabad	ZPHS Mamidipally
STANZIN NORZEN	Leh	Indian Training Institute
SANA SHAIKH	Mumbai	Gazdar Park Manekji SEC School
NANDINI YADAV	Mumbai	Gazdar Park Manekji SEC School
SHWETA VISHWAKARMA	Dehradun	NSTI
SONU KANWAR	Dehradun	NSTI



MEMBER AWARDEES

Aimed to acknowledge the efforts and incredible contribution of our dear members of Women in Aviation India who conducted wonderful Girls in Aviation Day programs across the country in 2024.

WAI Member Awardees
Capt. Nivedita Bhasin
Ms. Neelu Khatri
Ms. Archana Waghdare
Ms. Fauzia Siddiqui
Ms. Kamal Chakravarty
Ms. Anjali Wadhawan
Ms. Vineetha G
Ms. Rakhi Puri
Ms. Nidhi Bajaj
Ms. Sana Mudeer
Capt. Poonam Gaur
Ms. Radhika Diwan
Ms. Anju John
Ms. Anjali Chauhan
Ms. Sujata Mariwala
Ms. Kashish sharma
Ms. Kirti Tiwari
Ms. Pragati Kamboj
Ms. Sonia Kapila
Ms. Fairy Singh
Dr. Shefali Juneja
Ms. Bhawna Arora
Capt. Archana Kapoor
Capt. Priti Singh
Ms. Charulatha Pasupuleti



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WOMEN AWARDEES

AIRPORTS - Terminal Operations

Aryama Sanyal
Airport Director,
Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi

One of the very few senior and most experienced women aviation government officials in India, Ms. Aryama Sanyal from Airports Authority of India currently is serving as the Airport Director of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi and has been contributing to the Civil Aviation industry of the country since 33+ years.

AVIATION AUTHORITIES - Air Traffic Controller

Veena Bisht
Joint. GM (ATM)
Hyderabad Training Centre, Hyderabad

With thirty years of experience in Air Traffic Management, Ms. Veena Bisht has taken great initiatives and contributed immensely. Ms. Veena efficiently handled the C-ATFM India project.

DEFENCE SERVICES - Defence Services - Navy

Lt. Cdr. Deepa Singh
Indian Navy

Lt. Cdr. Deepa Singh is a Naval Operations Officer on the multi-mission aircraft Boeing- P8I, with over 2700 hours of flying and has undertaken gambit of missions from SAR (Search and Rescue) to combat patrolling off Makran Coast. Lt. Cdr. Deepa Singh was the first woman officer of P8I to be granted permanent Commission and successfully completed Flight Acceptance Trials of P8I - aircrafts in record time in Feb 2022.

AVIATION AUTHORITIES - Directorate General of Civil Aviation

Tuhinanshu Sharma
Deputy Director General
Directorate General of Civil Aviation

Ms. Tuhinanshu Sharma has more than 33 years of experience in Directorate General of Civil Aviation, India (DGCA) as an airworthiness inspector covering airworthiness of aircraft including certification of air carriers.

She is India's nominated expert on ICAO's Safety Management Panel for the development of Annex 19 – Safety Management and currently, member of the Working Group (WG1) relating to State Safety Programme for future amendments to Annex 19 and guidance material.



Suvrita Saxena

Director of Operations DGCA- India

Ms. Suvrita Saxena has over 33 years of aviation service experience and is currently working as Director of Operations in DGCA, Mumbai. She has holistic exposure as an aviation regulator and technocrat in general. She was at Madrid as Panel Speaker on 7th July 2023 for ICAO Global Aviation Gender Summit 2023.

GROUND HANDLING CONCESSIONAIRES - Services in BCAS

Mrs. Kunti Lomaror

Jr Clerk

HQ, BCAS, New Delhi

Mrs. Kunti has 22 years of administrative experience in BCAS and has been appreciated by RD, BCAS Mumbai many times for her exceptional services and contribution.

Ms. Rythm Arora

Data Entry Operator

HQ, BCAS, New Delhi

Ms. Rythm works with BCAS a Data Entry Operator and is awarded for her contribution in data maintenance, documentation and record keeping.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN CISF - Security & Safety Across Airports

Lady Sub Inspector/Exe Geeta Samota

ASG Udaipur

CISF

Lady Sub Inspector Geeta has 13 years of distinguished service in ensuring safety and security across various Airports with utmost devotion and dedication. An avid mountaineer, Ms. Geeta has to her credit many mountaineering feats across the world. She is the "fastest Indian to conquer 4/7 seven summits of the World".

AVIATION AUTHORITIES - Pawan Hans Ltd.

Mrs. Triveni Rahate

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME)

Pawan Hans

Mrs. Triveni Rahate has 27 years of experience as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer with Pawan Hans. Due to her vast experience, she has been appointed as Assessor for PHTI Training Institute and is DGCA approved Supervisor for Sikorsky S76-D. Through her initiative, Mrs. Triveni has been implementing various modifications on Helicopters.



AIRLINES - Terminal Operations

Smitha Kumar

***Assistant General Manager – Guest Relations
Bangalore International Airport Limited***

Ms. Smitha is a seasoned aviation professional with over 3 decades of experience in Airline & Airport Operations and has extensive knowledge of airlines operations and customer experience. She was one of the few women professionals to have taken up this role in the industry.

AIRLINES - Pilots

Capt. Archana Kapoor

Pilot, Vistara

Capt. Archana Kapoor has come a long way since she joined the Indian Air Force as part of the first batch of women pilots in 1993. Her journey in Civil Aviation began in May 2005 with Kingfisher Airlines on the A-320 aircraft as a Senior First Officer and subsequently became the first woman Commander of the Airline.

AIRLINES - Ground Support

Archana Koul

***Airport Manager, Jammu
Vistara***

Ms. Archana Koul has 22 years of experience in aviation industry, and has been an inspiration to many in the airport and her contribution has been recognized by the state bodies and the organization on different occasions. She has won a string of awards in the organization which displays her unwavering commitment to her work.

Reshma Sohoni

Airport Manager - Ahmedabad

Ms. Reshma has 20+ years of rich experience in civil aviation, with expertise in Passenger Handling and Airport operations. She has achieved higher levels in on time flight departures.

AIRLINES - Engineering

Abha Maheswari

General Manager-Engineering & Maintenance

Ms. Abha has specialized in the engineering field and has expertise in acquisitions. She has worked on 32 lease agreement of aircraft under Jet acquisition in 2 months' time.

Rupinder Kaur

***Asst. Aircraft Maintenance Engineer
Vistara***

Ms. Rupinder known for her never say 'No' attitude, joined Vistara as Aircraft Maintenance Technician and is now leading the AME fraternity with pride.

A proficient 'Aircraft Maintenance Licensed Engineer', Ms. Rupinder is always ready to help and support fellow peers. She is a role model to many aspiring Engineering maintenance folks, in particular women.



GROUND HANDLING CONCESSIONAIRES - Passenger Operations

Sushila Debbarma

Station Supervisor/CSO

Bird Airport Services Agartala Pvt. Ltd.

An aviator since 2004, Ms. Sushila has diverse experience and knowledge of Ground Operations and Security. The only female staff member who is handling dual function of Operations and Security within the network, she was instrumental in setting up the station and organizing the required resources as per requirement.

AIRPORTS - Airside Operations

Angel Joy

Junior Manager, Wildlife Hazard Management, Airside Operations

GMR Goa International Airport Limited (GGIAL)

Ms. Angel started her career as a research biologist & carried out Wildlife Hazard Studies at various Indian airports. An expert in ornithology & time series bird data analysis, Ms. Angel has successfully carried out various functions in the Greenfield New Goa International Airport in the best interest of operational safety.

Sonia Jagtiani

DGM-Airline Performance Monitoring & On Time Performance

Joint Control Centre, Terminal-2, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai

A pioneer in her field, Ms. Sonia has 37 years of experience in the industry and has made significant strides towards enhancing the OTP at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. She joined airside operations at the time when not many women were in this profile and has spearheaded numerous initiatives throughout her journey.

AIRLINES - Flight Operations

Juanella Colaco

Head - Cabin Safety Training

Vistara

Ms. Juanella has 27 years of rich experience and expertise in the field of flight operations. Being the first employee at Vistara, a lady employee, a DGCA certified SEP Instructor on the entire fleet and holding two DGCA Post Holder positions as Director Inflight Services & Cabin Safety Training Manager, Ms. Juanella's one of the greatest achievements has been obtaining the Airline Operators Permit by ensuring that Vistara cleared the Safety evaluation process

SUPPORT SERVICES - Marketing & Communication

Surabhi Rana

Head-Air Service Development

Yamuna International Airport Pvt. Ltd.

Ms. Surabhi Rana is an International Airport Professional (IAP) designate accredited by ACI and ICAO with over 15 years of experience in airport business. Ms. Surabhi has worked with the leading PPP airports in India, namely Mumbai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad Airports.



She has been instrumental in developing various B2B, B2C marketing campaigns that have further fueled the airport route development and non-aeronautical revenue opportunities.

SUPPORT SERVICES - IT

Priya Rajkumar

AGM-IT (Information Technology)

Bangalore International Airport Limited.

Ms. Priya has 24 years of experience in the IT industry as well as Airport/Aviation IT. She played a key role in operationalizing the Iconic T2 Terminal at Bangalore from IT readiness perspective and has handled multiple strategic IT Outsourcing for Airport Operations in current role.

PIONEERS

Dr. Shefali Juneja

Outstanding Award by Jury

Dr. Shefali Juneja is currently the Principal Commissioner of income tax, Assessment charges 1 & 8. Shefali Ma'am is the first woman to be posted as Representative of India in ICAO. Ma'am was elected as first Vice President in ICAO earlier this year, a position India last got in 1955.

She has occupied many key positions in ICAO as Chairperson on many key committees and small groups. In her earlier role as Joint Secretary in Ministry of Civil Aviation, she led more than 100 bilateral agreements meetings and worked in various domains for seven years.

Anita Khurana

Women Achiever in Cargo Turnaround

Love for uniforms brought Mrs. Khurana to Indian Airlines. In 35 years of airline experience, string of achievements took her to the top. Responsible for Complete turnaround in Cargo Division, Mrs. Khurana has to her credit many firsts.

Mrs. Khurana conceptualized and implemented of All India Centralized Call Center (24X7) help line with 150 work stations – a multilingual facility – a first for the airline, one of her many many achievements. Mrs. Khurana retired as Board Member for the National Airlines – Air India.

Renu Hussain

Writer & Poet acknowledging women

Ms. Renu is a renowned educationist and a social activist. She has immensely contributed to the education and upliftment of women with her various works. Being one of the contemporary writers in the field of Hindi Literature, she has published 3 volumes of poetry and a collection of stories titled Gunti.

Capt. Shweta Singh

Achiever's Award

Capt. Shweta is a result driven aviation professional and currently working as Deputy Chief Flight Operations Inspector with immense experience in Flight Operations and regulations,



Surveillance and Audit as per ICAO, Flight Safety and Risk Management, Accident and Incident Investigation. She is passionate about Aviation industry and has led multi-faceted teams directly and streamlined operational procedures creating seamless integrated operations. She has proven expertise in the Aviation industry with an in-depth understanding of USOAP Audits and FAP International Audits.

Dr. Rithi Baruah

Aviation Psychology

Dr. Rithi Baruah is currently heading the department of HF-CRM (Head Human Factors – Crew Resource Management) under Flight Crew Training at Vistara Airlines. She is the first woman in India with a Doctoral degree in Aviation Psychology and is the only Aviation Psychologist in the commercial aviation market in India. She has published various articles in scholarly journals and presented her research work on Aviation Human Factors at national and international forums both in India and abroad. Dr. Rithi is also the first in India to initiate and start a Bachelor's Degree elective Course in Aviation Psychology in CHRIST University, Bangalore.

Indira Varma

Stalwart in Easing Travel Processes

Since 1987, Mrs. Varma is totally devoted in service to the Travel Industry through her various IVS and IVA travel related Companies.

IV Associated Pvt. Ltd., International Visa Service, IVS Visa Application Center, IVS Global, Training Institute for Travel Trade and the IVA World Visa Guide.

The first ever VISA Service Provider, established in 1987, started advising Travel Agents on documentation. Ma'am's companies have been awarded many times by Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI). She has held many important positions throughout her journey till date.

Ms. Neelam Matthews

Aviation Journalism

Neelam Mathews, part of the founding enthusiasts of Women in Aviation India, covers every aspect of aviation for leading international and Indian publications and podcasts. Her signature is apparent in her writings on airlines and maintenance, to technology, general aviation and airports. Not to forget drones, space, military and artificial intelligence that have made a big impact on aviation. Her journey with Women in Aviation India, she says, has been an influencer on how she looks at gender issues.

Tessy Thomas

Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Tessy Thomas is a distinguished scientist and the Director General of Aeronautical Systems and the former Project Director for Agni-IV missile in Defence Research and Development Organisation. She is the first ever woman scientist to head a missile project in India.

Ma'am has contributed in various fields such as Guidance, Control, Inertial Navigation, Trajectory Simulation and Mission Design in her work spanning more than 34 years. In her stint



with DRDO, she has held multi-dimensional roles and responsibilities in strategic mission planning and infrastructure developments and lead the development of strategic missile systems. Presently, leading the Aeronautical Systems Cluster Laboratories as Director General.

STUDENT AWARDEES

Name	School	City
Ratan Maya Sharma	Gandhi Memorial High School, Bagdogra	Bagdogra
Muskan	Diksha School, Gurugram	Gurugram
Khushi	Diksha School, Gurugram	Gurugram
Kishori E.V.	Orchids International School Vivekananda, B'lore	Bangalore
Angel Rajta	Achievers Perfect Career Institute, Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Jiya Thakur	D.A.V. Centenary Public School, Mandi	Mandi



'GIVING WINGS TO DREAMS' 2022 AWARDEES

Customer Relationship Management and Airline Operations

Ms. Neerja Sodhi

Manager Commercial (Retd.) Air India

Neerja has over 33 years of rich, diverse experience in various aspects of public relations, airline operations and management with Air India. Neerja has also spearheaded the Premium Care Unit at Delhi Airport

Pilot Training

Capt. Kunjal Bhatt

Chief Flying Instructor at IGRUA

Capt. Bhatt is the first woman 'Head of Training' at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi. She is currently the Chief Flying Instructor at IGRUA.

Aerosports

Ms. Shital Mahajan Rane

Expert Skydiver

Shital Mahajan is a professional woman skydiver and Padmashri awardee 2011. Since 2012, Shital has represented India in Skydiving Championships around the world. Shital Mahajan is the first Indian woman to perform a parachute jump at the North Pole & the bottom of the world, South Pole in minus 37/38 degrees Celsius.

Drone Technology

Dr. Sarita Ahlawat

Head, Living Science Group, Co-Founder, Botlab Dynamics

Dr Sarita Ahlawat is the Co-Founder of Botlab Dynamics Pvt. Ltd. a Robotics start-up specializing in building drone swarm technology incubated at IIT Delhi. She is responsible for the swarm drone show at the Beating Retreat 2022.

Flight Safety and Civil Aviation

Capt. Nivedita Bhasin (Retd.)

B787 Captain | Superannuated after 37 years as Executive Director & Chief of Flight Safety at Air India Limited

Capt. Nivedita Bhasin is India's pioneer Woman Pilot of Indian Airlines (now Air India). Capt Nivedita Bhasin became the world's youngest Woman Jet Commander, and the world's first Woman Airline Pilot to fly the Dreamliner, Boeing 787. Recently, Capt. Nivedita Bhasin superannuated after a glorious Airline flying career that spanned more than 37 years. Nivedita is one of the founding members of the women in aviation India chapter.



Aerospace & Airline Industry

Ms. Neelu Khatri

Co-Founder and Senior Vice President, Akasa Air

Neelu Khatri - Co-Founder and Senior Vice President, Akasa Air. Akasa Air is scheduled to commence operations in the summer of 2022. Prior to this, Ms. Khatri was the President of Honeywell Aerospace in India handling the defence, aerospace, aviation and space business.

Flight Safety

Captain Anushree Varma

Chief of Flight Safety, Safety Manager, SpiceJet

Captain Varma literally grew up in SpiceJet to become one of the youngest Chief of Flight Safety professionals for a scheduled airline in the history of Indian Civil Aviation. She is a trainer on Boeing 737 aircraft and has headed the Pilot Recruitment Cell.

Air Force Aviation

Flt. Lt. Shivangi Singh

India's first woman Rafale Jet pilot, part of Air Force tableau

Flt. Lt. Shivangi Singh was born on 24th July 1995, in Varanasi(Uttar Pradesh). She has done schooling from St. Josephs' Convent School, B.Sc. (Phy and Maths) from Sunbeam College (Varanasi). Shivangi has taken part in Republic Day Parade through NCC Air wing and had the privilege of representing my country as Youth Ambassador through Youth Exchange Program in Bangladesh. She joined IAF academy at Dundigal in Jul 2016. After doing basic military training and studying ground subjects related to aviation, she started flying Pilatus PC-7 Mk-II as part of stage-1 training, in Jan 2017. By the end of stage-1 training, she was shortlisted to join Fighter Stream of Indian Airforce. After successful completion of training, Shivangi got commissioned in Fighter Streams in Dec 2017. Afterwards she flew Basic Fighter Jet, Hawk Mk-132 and got posted to a Fighter Sqn in Feb, 2019 where she flew Mig-21 Bison and became the youngest fully Operational pilot in Mig-21 Bison. She currently flies Rafale.

Naval Aviation

Lt. Cdr. Swati Bhandari

Naval Air Operations (NAO) officer

She is fully qualified on P8I Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance & Anti Submarine Warfare (LRMR-ASW) aircraft. She holds the highest CAT 'A' qualification and is also the youngest woman in India to be awarded Mission Controller and Captain of Aircraft clearance on P8I Aircraft.

Cargo Industry

Ms. Tulsi Nowlakha Mirchandaney

MD, Blue Dart Aviation

Ms. Tulsi is the MD and Accountable Manager of Blue Dart Aviation, India's only scheduled domestic cargo airline and longest serving private carrier. She has been actively associated with India's airline industry for the past 52 years and with Blue Dart for 27 years.



Travel Management

Ms. Ritika Modi

Uniglobe Travel

Ritika as an entrepreneur, launched her own travel company - Mod Travels, in the early nineties PAN India, which today is a leading name in the Indian travel industry diaspora. She led it to confer as the Most Preferred Operator for Business Travel by CNBC Award in 2013. Under the leadership and able guidance of a travel veteran, UNIGLOBE in no time has expanded to 50+ locations across India and Bangladesh, with an annualized turnover of over INR 2,000+ Crores, making it the largest single-brand travel franchise network in the South Asia Region.

Operation of Heavy Vehicles

Mrs. Sophiya T V

BFS, Cochin

Mrs. Sophiya Anil is a heavy equipment operator at Bird Worldwide Flight Services. She holds a heavy equipment driving license and operates the DBT/EBT and Ramp Vehicles.

Civil & Structural Engineering

Mrs. Bini T I

General Manager, Civil Engineering, CIAL

Bini T. I. is the General Manager, Civil Engineering, Cochin International Airport. She has been instrumental in the planning and construction of the airport from inception to full operational capability in 1999. She spearheaded the development of the New International and Domestic Terminals. She constituted a team of lady engineers to complete the runway re-carpeting in 2020.

Offshore Flying

Capt. Mayuri Deshmukh

Pilot, Pawanhans

Capt. Mayuri Deshmukh of Pawan Hans Ltd, has created history in India by becoming the country's first female Off Shore Captain. Through organizations like Pawan Hans Ltd and ONGC Capt. Deshmukh fulfilled her dream of flying offshore.

Flying Multi Engine Helicopters

Capt. Ashima Mendiratta

Pilot, Pawanhans

Capt. Ashima Mendiratta is a passionate and dedicated helicopter pilot for Pawan Hans Ltd . She is the youngest female to become Pilot In Command in Indian Civil Aviation Industry on multi engine helicopters.



Drone Pilot Training

Capt. Neha Malhotra

Ms. Neha is one of the first few approved DGCA Drone Instructors. She has started a DGCA approved Remote Pilot Training Organization (Drone Academy) by the name of Ganpati Aviation Solutions LLP.

Airport Operations

Ms. Kanika Tekriwal

CEO & Co-Founder, JetSetGo

Ms. Kanika Tekriwal, CEO & Co-Founder, JetSetGo, which currently manages and operates India's largest private jet and helicopter fleet.

Military Aviation, Airside Operations, Aircraft Safety and Air Traffic Control

Lt. Commander Pushpa Pandey

Bangalore International Airport Ltd.

Lt. Commander Pushpa Pandey is with Bangalore International Airport Limited, with experience in Air Traffic Control, Airspace redesignation, Airside Operations, Aircraft Safety and Emergency Response Planning. Prior to joining BIAL, she was working as Commissioned Officer in Indian Navy (2002-2023)

Marketing, Business Development and Strategic Planning in Aviation

Ms. Kiranjeet Jain

Chief Operating Officer, Noida International Airport

Ms. Kiran Jain is an aviation management professional with over 25 years of experience in aviation, in both airports and airlines. Currently, Kiran is the Chief Operating Officer of Noida International Airport, one of the first woman COOs at an airport in India and is part of the founding members of the women in aviation India chapter.

Civil Aviation

Mrs. M. Sathiyavathy

Ex-DGCA

Smt. M. Sathiyavathy who hails from Chennai, is a Post Graduate & gold medalist in Mathematics from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras. She then joined the Indian Revenue Service in 1981 and thereafter the Indian Administrative Service in 1982. Ms. Sathiyavathy was the first and only female DGCA, Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Capt. Zoya Aggarwal

Commander B777, Air India

Captain Zoya Agarwal is a Commander with Air India and the youngest woman to fly Boeing 777 in 2013. In 2021 Zoya led the historic Polar flight where she led an all-women's crew across the North Pole over the longest route in the world creating World Aviation history. Zoya is a global spokesperson with UN women for generation equality. Zoya has given 11 Ted X and Ted Talks and has also been covered by platforms such as BBC, CNN, and Forbes etc.



Gayathri Venkateshwaran
Jt. General Manager (Finance), AAI

Air Cargo, Vaccine Logistics, Infrastructure, Aviation Education & Training

Ms. Parul Kulshreshtha
Head of GMR Aviation Academy

Ms. Parul Kulshreshtha is an awarded young leader with experience in Aviation, Air Cargo, Vaccine Logistics, Infrastructure, Aviation Education and Training. She is currently the Chief of GMR Aviation Academy. She is also currently the Chairman of Air Cargo Forum India (ACFI), Hyderabad Chapter.

Flight Operations

Capt. Vandita Verma
Line Training Captain, Indigo

Line Training Captain, Flight Operations, Indigo Airlines Capt. Vandita Verma, took the lead to be proactive and resourceful during the second wave of Covid and developed a website that provided extended support regarding RTPCR test, Plasma, Food for patients and family, setup of Home care unit and many more. This website validates the authenticity of such information from various sources before sharing with people who needed the most.

Inflight Services

Ms. Yasmin Ali
Lead Cabin Attendant, Indigo

Lead Cabin Attendant, Inflight services, Indigo Airlines, Ms. Yasmin Ali is being felicitated for her courage, presence of mind and compassion she displayed during a road accident in which she also coordinated with the base and transport team and arranged for the casualty to be taken to a hospital while she reported to the base to operate this rescue flight she had willingly agreed to undertake.

Airport Operations

Ms. Lucky Verrma Bhasker
Head-Airside Operations, DIAL

Started her career with Airport Authority of India and has successfully led several critical functions of Aviation business such as Airport Operations (Airside & Terminals), Hub development for Aviation Services, Course Developer & Business Development for GMR Aviation Academy. Her key achievements include first ISO certification of IGI Airport. She was also the core task force member during IC-814 hijack.

Bibiana Audreydas
Head Terminal Operations, GHIAL (RGIA)

Bibiana is a seasoned professional in the field of Quality Management, Customer Services and Operations. She has a diversified experience of around 30 years in hospitality, Tourism & Travel and aviation sector including airlines and airports. She was awarded 'Woman Leader of the Year 2018', by UBS Transformance.



Charulatha Pasupuleti

GM / Sr. Specialist, GHIAL (RGIA)

Charulatha, joined as GET and is currently working as GM. She is Technical Specialist in Airport Development Strategy and Design Management with Degree in Mechanical Engineering having rich expertise in design and assessment of Mechanical & Airport Systems, Aerodrome Master Planning, Operations & Terminal Planning, Capacity Planning. A core project management professional, who has spent 17 years in GMR Group. Charulatha has led various Airport Concession bids on behalf of GMR such as, Ibrahim Nasir International Airport, Male Mactan-Cebu International, Airport-Philippines, Mopa Airport, Kasteli Airport Crete – Greece, etc.

Finance and Land Management

Geeta Gauba

Deputy General Manager (Land Management), AAI

Airline Operations

Ms. Jyoti Dhingra

Sr. Manager (Customer Engagement), Vistara

With Vistara since 2015 (inception phase)

COVID-19 outbreak disrupted airline operations and with that, the travel plans of thousands of our customers. Announcement of lockdown further added to the problem.

Jyoti took up the challenge and was able to shift the contact center team, telephony system and technology to the homes of customer service agents within a day. Throughout Wave 1 and Wave 2 lockdown, contact center operations were running seamlessly.

Aviation Security

Mrs. Jayati Ghosh

DIG, CISF