
Airbus expands India COVID-19 relief, delivers more oxygen plants, ventilators, mobile ICUs

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NEW DELHI, June 2, 2021 - Airbus has doubled down on its response to the COVID-19 crisis in India, delivering more than 36 tonnes of additional medical equipment to the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) and deploying humanitarian flights to move supplies from abroad as well as within the country.

Airbus is delivering oxygen plants, ventilators, oxygen concentrators, BPAP breathing machines and mobile intensive care units (ICUs), further boosting its individual contribution to the global humanitarian effort to tackle the second wave of COVID-19 infection in India. An A350 test aircraft delivered a part of the consignment comprising oxygen concentrators and ventilators from Airbus' headquarters in Toulouse, France, on Wednesday. The remaining materials are sourced from India.

The latest mission is Airbus' second tranche of support to the country. The Company has already contributed with funds to a consolidated response coordinated by the French embassy in India, which included the delivery of eight large oxygen generators, ventilators, electric syringe pumps, anti-bacterial filters and patient circuits as part of a 28-tonne consignment. Much of the equipment has been deployed, and it is helping save hundreds of lives across India.

"Airbus stands behind India in solidarity and service. Our focus is to support not only our employees, customers, and partners but also as many people of India as we can," said Rémi Maillard, President and MD of Airbus India & South Asia. "This is our common fight against the virus and we at Airbus are committed to doing our best to help in these challenging times for India and the world."

The latest contribution from Airbus comprises two oxygen generator plants, 250 oxygen concentrators, 30 ventilators, 100 BPAP breathing machines and four ICUs-on-wheels. Airbus is working with the Indian government and the IRCS, the nodal agency for handling of international aid, to ensure the smooth deployment of the materials.

Additionally, the Airbus Foundation is in touch with international and Indian NGO partners to support any need for transportation of relief materials from Europe. Airbus Foundation has also secured helicopter flight hours to move aid within India.

"The crisis is still unfolding. Its fallout will have to be managed over the coming many months," Maillard said.

"Our Indian NGO partners are already evaluating the knock-on impact of the crisis on livelihoods and children's education. Airbus will expand support to them to meet the additional challenges."

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Newsroom**Contacts for the media****Krittivas Mukherjee**

Airbus India

+91 999 988 0819

krittivas.mukherjee@airbus.com**Neha Vij**

Airbus India

+91 981 040 8014

neha.vij@airbus.com