

Coming together to fight India's COVID-19 Second Wave

By Aniruddho Chakraborty

In early 2021, the Covid-19 situation in India changed dramatically, with the nation battling a devastating second wave. With more than 450K+ cases daily and more than 3500 deaths at one point, the nation's medical infrastructure was under great duress. The pandemic hit home for many of our members too – impacting us, our loved ones, friends and colleagues.

However, when the times were dark, we stepped up to lend a helping hand wherever we could – be it for the country, our organizations, our communities, our teams or our social groups. Despite the tough situation, the aerospace industry surged on, serving on the frontlines by transporting vaccines, oxygen and medicines with urgency.

“The spirit of service displayed and the contributions made to India and our communities, indeed served as a silver lining,” said Sandeep Bahl, Executive Program Director US - India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP). “The world, and members of US - India ACP came together to commit and deliver support to India so far of nearly INR 165 crores (\$22 million) and the commitment continue to grow. Our member organizations worked with each other, Ministry of Civil Aviation,

DGCA and Customs to ensure that the response was rapid and timely.”

In this issue, we feature the tremendous impact our member companies have made over the past few months, and will continue to make – as we move on to brighter times, armed and prepared!

BOEING

In early May, 2021, aircraft manufacturer Boeing had announced \$10-million emergency aid for India. Boeing's relief initiatives are currently underway across the country in partnership with state governments and local and international relief organizations. In Bengaluru, Boeing is working with the

Karnataka government to build a 100 Bed Covid Care facility in Yelahanka, equipped with an oxygen plant. It has also set up a 200 Bed Covid Care Facility in Kanchipuram, and provided two ambulances to the state of Tamil Nadu.

“Boeing stands in solidarity with India during this difficult time. With our over seven decade legacy in the country, we want to be a part of the solution in the fight against COVID. Our relief efforts in association with our partners, are aimed at reaching communities most impacted by the virus and includes providing medical supplies, emergency healthcare and setting up field hospitals for communities and families battling COVID,” said Salil Gupte, President, Boeing India.



Boeing's Lucknow team received ventilators





A lot of the company's work has focused on bolstering critical oxygen and medical equipment capabilities in India. Boeing has set up oxygen plants in Madurai and Raxaul, Bihar and has sent oxygen concentrators, ventilators and cylinders to Nagpur, Maharashtra as well as Kannauj, Saharanpur, Meerut and Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh. The company will provide CT scan machines to hospitals in Telangana and Bihar – as well as seven ambulances across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Telangana. Boeing has also provided manpower support to field hospitals in Chattisgarh and Telengana.

Boeing currently employs 3,000 people in India, and more than 7,000 people work with its supply chain partners. Boeing serves communities and citizenship programs to inspire change and make an impact on more than 300,000 lives in India. Boeing's advanced aircraft and services focus plays an important role in mission-readiness for the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy.

COLLINS AEROSPACE, PRATT & WHITNEY AND RAYTHEON TECHNOLOGIES

Raytheon Technologies Corporation (RTX) and its companies in India, Pratt & Whitney and Collins Aerospace have deployed more than \$ Four million in immediate aid, to support India's Covid-19 relief efforts. As part of its first tranche

– the companies rapidly donated 1,000 oxygen concentrators and unique retrofitted OxyTrucks, which can transport 270,000 liters of oxygen at one time. These OxyTrucks were transported into the country by the Indian Air Force, on Pratt & Whitney powered C-17 Globemaster aircraft.

The much needed oxygen concentrators and the OxyTrucks, which are augmenting hospital oxygen supply lines and are being distributed in collaboration with the Indian government including Niti Ayog and others non-profits.

Local teams from Pratt & Whitney and Collins Aerospace will continue to assess in-country needs of the government, communities and its 5500 employees and their families, while working with hospitals on a broader vaccination program.

“For us India is family. Our employees across RTX and P&W have also donated generously to mitigate the Covid-19 impact. In addition to our larger funding and cross-enterprise efforts, our teams in India are also proud to power and support the fleets of airlines like IndiGo, GoAir, and SpiceJet



OxyTrucks from Collins arriving from Germany, on Indian Air Force's Pratt & Whitney powered Boeing C-17 Globemaster



– and our military customers like the Indian Air Force, who have relentlessly served the nation on the frontlines during these tough times,” said **Ashmita Sethi, President & Country Head, Pratt & Whitney.**

The group’s employee donations to Covid-19 response are being amplified by matching commitments in amount by RTX. “We are using RTX supply chain capabilities to provide essential medical equipment like OxyTrucks and large scale PPE that India needs, while working with state health organizations to drive vaccination camps” added **Samit Ray, Regional Director, South Asia Government Affairs, Raytheon Technologies.**

With over 1500 engines and APUs in service, Pratt & Whitney has one of the largest installed bases amongst engine OEMs in India; and Collins Aerospace commands one of the largest, high-value aerospace supply chains in-country. Together with Raytheon Intelligence & Space and Raytheon Missiles & Defense, Raytheon Technologies’ companies have been investing in India for eight decades.

FEDEX

FedEx Express, a subsidiary of FedEx Corp., and the world’s largest express transportation company, has been working with organizations around the world to deliver critical medical supplies and

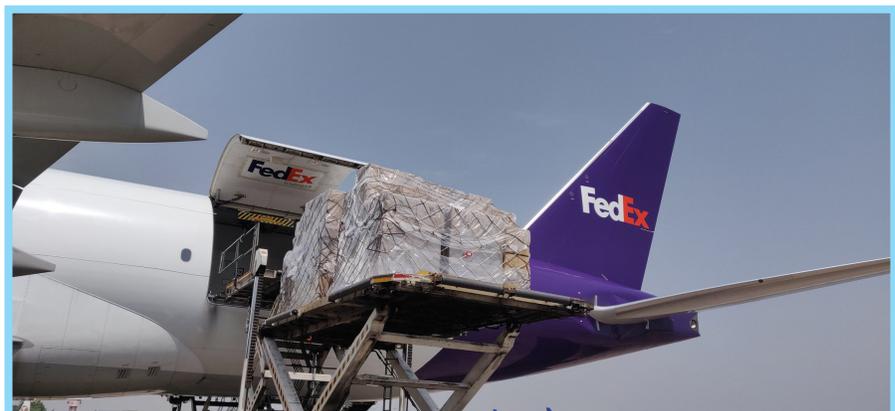


FedEx delivering critical COVID-19 Aid to India

equipment during this crisis. FedEx supported the transportation of more than 25,000 oxygen concentrators and converters to India, delivering the first shipment of 1,000 concentrators as early as April 30th. FedEx also donated two dedicated FedEx Boeing 777F charter flights to move more than 000 oxygen concentrators, converters and over 2 million KN95 masks for Direct Relief from

Newark, New Jersey to Mumbai and New Delhi, India.

“We have been on the frontlines delivering relief since the start of the pandemic, and are responding to the urgent situation in India now. FedEx will continue to deliver lifesaving medicine, personal protective equipment, and other critical supplies until this pandemic is over,” said **FedEx President and COO Raj Subramaniam.**



FedEx delivers relief shipments to India





Since the start of the pandemic, FedEx Express has shipped more than 90 kilotons of personal protective equipment, including more than 2.2 billion masks worldwide. The company has also committed \$4 million in cash and in-kind transportation support to help nonprofits including Direct Relief and International Medical Corps distribute COVID-19 vaccines to under-resourced communities around the world.

HONEYWELL

With nearly 13,000 people working across 7 cities, with three state-of-the-art manufacturing and engineering operations, and four global centers of excellence for technology development and innovation – Honeywell has a strong commitment to India. As part of its Covid-19 relief response, Honeywell partnered with governments of Maharashtra, Delhi, Haryana, Karnataka, and Uttarakhand to establish COVID care centers and COVID critical care centers.

Speaking on Honeywell’s efforts, **Dr Akshay Bellare, President, Honeywell India** said, “Honeywell is committed to helping the country deal with this humanitarian crisis and has pledged \$3M since the start of the pandemic for COVID relief. We are partnering with state and local governments to enhance healthcare capacities across multiple states, including setting up COVID care centers and critical care centers. We are also donating essential medical supplies such as

Minister for IT, Industries, MA & UD, Telangana @Ministe... · 7m ...

Heartfelt thanks to @honeywell for delivering first tranche of Oxygen concentrators to Govt. of Telangana and committing to deliver more Oxygen concentrators, N95 Masks and PPE kits. We appreciate your social responsibility: Minister @KTRTRS



You and 5 others

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Rakesh Swami 🇮🇳 @rkswami · 16 Jun ...

@honeywell Partners With @DRDO_India To Ramp Up Oxygen Production
businessworld.in/article/Honeyw...

Proud of our partnership with DRDO & @CSIR_IND on this life saving mission
#COVID19India
Jai Hind 🇮🇳
Thanks @DefenceMinIndia @PMOIndia @investindia @AkshayBellare @USISPFForum @AmchamIndia



Honeywell Partners With DRDO To Ramp Up Oxygen ...
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oxygen concentrators, ventilators, N95 respirators, and PPE kits.”

The centers will be constructed in a phase-wise manner. While the COVID care centers built in the first phase will be equipped with beds, oxygen supply, PPE kits, and other basic medical infrastructure to treat non-critical patients; the COVID critical care centers set-up in the second phase in Bengaluru and Mumbai will be equipped with critical medical equipment like Fowler beds, class I ventilators, defibrillators, multipara monitors, X-ray machines and bipap machines.

Honeywell also is donating 1,000 oxygen concentrators, 50 ventilators, 10,000 N95 respirators, and 2,500 personal protective equipment (PPE) kits to various government and private hospitals.

L3HARRIS

L3Harris’s response to the deadly wave was on-the-clock, around-the-clock! The company created a 24x7 L3 Harris in-house helpdesk to aid employees and their families on medicines, oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators and hospital beds. It also procured much needed oxygen concentrators that could be used in cases of emergency by employees and their families. L3Harris worked in sync with Logistics Plus to enable quick deliveries and smooth approvals – so that they could reach in time to the genuinely needy.

The company also partnered with COVID care agencies to facilitate home-care and holding centers to ensure adequate care for critical cases until hospitalization was available. The company will be organizing a vaccination camp for its employees and their families in early June. L3Harris also had larger CSR initiatives running in parallel, in partnership with global organizations like the Red Cross and UNICEF.

LOGISTICS PLUS

Logistics Plus Covid-19 efforts have focused not only on assisting its employees and their families during the second wave, but also on aiding communities that have been impacted due to Covid19 pandemic. Given the urgent need for oxygen concentrators for critical patients, the company established a pan-India Oxygen Concentrator Bank.

“The Oxygen Concentrator Bank currently has 15 such concentrators in store, which are free to use and return. We will be expanding the bank further in the coming days.” said **Sundreysh Sarup, Managing Director, Logistics Plus India, and Co-Chair US India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP).**

Logistics Plus has expanded its relief outreach to rural areas as well – donating surgical masks and essential medicines to Dwarson & Dwarahaii villages in Uttarakhand.

These are currently being stored at a Government Girls College, for further distribution as needs arise. In a great example of cooperation between members of US-ACP during these times, Logistics Plus also assisted L3Harris relief efforts. The company helped L3Harris with import, customs clearance, and delivery of their oxygen concentrators to India.

SMITHS DETECTION

These are unprecedented times that require every section of the society to rise up to the challenge. All our efforts during the pandemic have been targeted towards ensuring that the relief material reaches those who need it the most.

For the year 2021, we joined efforts with Give India for initiating a donation drive and the proceeds from the same will be used to procure oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, medical kits



Oxygen Generation Plant (ref. image)

and life-saving equipment like ventilators. We are also setting up an oxygen generating plant, with a shelf-life of 20 years, in Bengaluru, which will cater to a hospital's oxygen requirement for almost 50 patients, at any given day. We also joined government's campaign #PehnoSahi to spread awareness on the right way to wear a face mask and on proper disposal of single-use masks.

Smiths India is always committed to support the needs of the country in the fight against this global pandemic. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all who have lost their lives, and the many more who continue to battle Covid-19..

UNITED AIRLINES

United Airlines is the only U.S. passenger airline to have served India for over a decade. During

the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, airlines in India and across the world played a critical role on the frontlines,



carrying essential relief supplies, PPE, oxygen and much needed equipment from across the world to India. United Airlines was a critical part of this global effort.

“United is proud to have shipped over 2.0 million pounds of medical and other COVID-19 relief supplies to India, and has raised via corporate matching \$330K for India relief efforts,” said **Dan Weiss, Managing Director, Global Government and Regulatory Affairs, United Airlines.**

United continues to provide a critical transportation link between India and the U.S. for air travelers and shippers with service from Delhi to Newark/New York and San Francisco, and from Mumbai to Newark/New York. United plans to return to five daily flights from India to the U.S. including the reinstatement of Delhi – Chicago service and launching Bengaluru – San Francisco service as relief efforts take hold and market dynamics return to normal.

