

BPCL and Akasa Air Successfully Operate Commercial Flight Using Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)

Marks an important step towards building operational readiness and advancing India's emerging Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) ecosystem

Mumbai, September, 9 2026: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), one of India's leading integrated energy companies, and Akasa Air, India's fastest-growing airline, today announced the successful operation of a commercial flight powered by Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) blended with 1% Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).

On September 8, 2026, flight QP1105 departed Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai, at 1304 hrs IST and landed at Manohar International Airport (GOX), Goa, at 1407 hrs IST, demonstrating the successful deployment of SAF-blended fuel in scheduled commercial operations.

The milestone represents a significant step in strengthening India's emerging Sustainable Aviation Fuel ecosystem and underscores the commitment of both organizations to support the decarbonisation of the aviation sector while advancing India's sustainability and energy transition goals.

This initiative builds upon the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between BPCL and Akasa Air in July 2026 to explore opportunities for the development, supply and adoption of Sustainable Aviation Fuel, and to collaborate on efforts that contribute to reducing the carbon footprint of aviation. The successful operation provides valuable operational insights and strengthens industry confidence in the readiness of SAF-blended fuel for commercial airline operations in India.

The first-ever Sustainable Aviation Fuel refuelling undertaken by BPCL for Akasa Air was witnessed by senior officials from BPCL and Akasa Air, along with representatives from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and other aviation stakeholders. The milestone reflected the strong collaboration among industry participants in advancing sustainable aviation initiatives and supporting the growth of India's SAF ecosystem.

Mr. Subhankar Sen, Director (Marketing), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), said:

The transition from conventional fuels to sustainable alternatives is both an environmental imperative and a strategic necessity for India. While feedstock availability and aggregation have historically posed challenges due to fragmented supply chains, sustained efforts across the value chain have helped create the foundation for a viable Sustainable Aviation Fuel ecosystem. BPCL remains firmly committed to advancing sustainable fuels as part of India's broader energy transition journey. As a nation that relies significantly on crude oil imports, enhancing energy security through sustainable and indigenous energy solutions is the way forward. BPCL is actively driving sustainability initiatives across multiple sectors, and today's milestone with Akasa Air marks an important step in extending these efforts to aviation and supporting India's decarbonisation goals. He also thanked the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the Ministry of Civil Aviation, and DGCA for their unwavering support and guidance in making this achievement possible.

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Business Head (Aviation), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), said:

Today's SAF-powered commercial flight with Akasa Air is a historic milestone for India's aviation sector and a significant step towards a more sustainable future. BPCL has identified sustainable fuel manufacturing pathways across its Mumbai, Bina and Kochi refineries, strengthening our readiness to support the aviation industry's energy transition. This achievement is the result of extensive coordination and collaboration among multiple departments, regulatory authorities and industry stakeholders who worked together to address technical, operational and regulatory challenges. We are proud to partner with Akasa Air in this pioneering initiative, which demonstrates the operational readiness of Sustainable Aviation Fuel in commercial aviation and reinforces our commitment to supporting India's decarbonisation journey.

Commenting on the milestone, Ankur Goel, Chief Financial Officer, Akasa Air, said, “Sustainability is one of Akasa Air’s core values and shapes how we are building the airline for the long term. Since inception, we have invested in next-generation aircraft, technology and responsible practices that enable more conscious and efficient operations, both on the ground and in the air. This flight with BPCL translates our partnership into tangible action. Scaling SAF in India will require coordinated action across the ecosystem, supported by domestic supply, enabling policy and commercial viability. We are committed to exploring this transition.”

About Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL):

Fortune Global 500 Company, Bharat Petroleum is the second largest Indian Oil Marketing Company and one of the integrated energy companies in India, engaged in refining of crude oil and marketing of petroleum products, with presence in the upstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry. The company attained the coveted Maharatna status, joining the club of companies having greater operational & financial autonomy.

Bharat Petroleum’s Refineries at Mumbai, Kochi and Bina have a combined refining capacity of around 35.3 MMTPA. Its marketing infrastructure includes a network of installations, depots, fuel stations, aviation service stations and LPG distributors. Its distribution network comprises over 25,300+ Fuel Stations, over 1000+ CNG stations, over 6,250+ LPG distributorships, 440+ Lubes distributorships, 81 POL storage locations, 56 LPG Bottling Plants, 83 Aviation Service Stations, 5 Lube blending plants and 6 cross-country pipelines.

Bharat Petroleum is integrating its strategy, investments, environmental and social ambitions to move towards a sustainable planet. The company has Electric vehicle charging stations at 6800+ Fuel Stations. With a focus on sustainable solutions, the company is developing an ecosystem and a road-map to become a Net Zero Energy Company by 2040, in Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. Bharat Petroleum has been partnering communities by supporting several initiatives connected primarily in the areas of education, water conservation, skill development, health, community development, capacity building and employee volunteering. With ‘Energising Lives’ as its core purpose, Bharat Petroleum’s vision is to be an admired global energy company leveraging talent, innovation & technology.

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About Akasa Air:

Akasa Air is India's most dependable airline, offering warm and efficient customer service, reliable operations, and affordable fares - all in the Akasa Way. Akasa's youthful personality, employee-centric philosophy, tech-led approach, and culture of service make this commitment a reality for all Indians.

Akasa Air's consistent on-time leadership, operational efficiencies and extremely positive customer feedback have made it a preferred carrier in India, serving over 30 million passengers since its launch in August 2022. Akasa Air currently connects with 29 domestic and seven international cities, namely Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kochi, Delhi, Guwahati, Agartala, Pune, Lucknow, Goa, Hyderabad, Varanasi, Bagdogra, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Sri Vijaya Puram, Ayodhya, Gwalior, Srinagar, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Darbhanga, Kozhikode, Navi Mumbai, Dibrugarh, Noida, Udaipur, Jaipur, Doha (Qatar), Jeddah, Riyadh (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), Abu Dhabi (UAE), Kuwait City (Kuwait), Phuket (Thailand), and Hanoi (Vietnam).

With a clear focus on sustained, long-term growth, Akasa Air has placed a firm order of 226 Boeing 737 MAX airplanes, powered by CFM fuel-efficient LEAP-1B engines. It currently operates 43 737 MAX aircraft, which deliver superior efficiency in reducing fuel use and carbon emissions. The aircraft also has a quieter cabin with 40 per cent less noise, fulfilling the airline's promise of being an environmentally progressive company with the youngest and greenest fleet in the Indian skies.

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