# Thomas Cook (India) Limited

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April 29, 2024

The Manager, Listing Department BSE Limited Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers, Dalal Street, Mumbai – 400 001 Scrip Code: 500413 Fax No.: 2272 2037/39/41/61 The Manager,
Listing Department
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
Exchange Plaza, 5th Floor, Plot No. C/1,
G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E),
Mumbai – 400 051
Scrip Code: THOMASCOOK

Fax No.: 2659 8237/38

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Ref: Press Release – Intimation under Regulation 30 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

We are enclosing herewith the Press Release dated April 29, 2024 titled, "Thomas Cook and SOTC successfully operate their inaugural Charter to Bhutan from Bengaluru on April 27th, 2024 - Flight operated at 100% capacity.".

This is for your information and records.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

For Thomas Cook (India) Limited

# Amit J. Parekh

Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Encl: a/a





# Thomas Cook and SOTC successfully operate their inaugural Charter to Bhutan from Bengaluru on April 27th, 2024 Flight operated at 100% capacity

- Sold-out inaugural charter flight underscores strong appetite from Bengaluru & Karnataka for unique destinations & experiences
- Bookings for upcoming Bhutan charters also at 100% capacity demonstrating significant interest for Bhutan
- Bengaluru Airport serving as a crucial hub for burgeoning travel market of Karnataka & South India

**Mumbai, April 29, 2024:** Thomas Cook (India) Limited, India's leading omnichannel travel services provider, and its Group Company, SOTC Travel, have achieved a significant milestone with their inaugural charter taking off from Bengaluru to Paro (Bhutan) at 100% capacity. This exceptional delivery underscores the robust demand from Bengaluru and Karnataka for premium destinations-experiences.

Post announcement of their ground-breaking Bhutan charters ex-Bengaluru, Thomas Cook & SOTC have witnessed a surge in demand for the Himalayan Kingdom. This has resulted in an enviable 100% booking status for all its charters of April 27<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. To leverage this strong and growing appetite, Thomas Cook & SOTC have launched two additional charters on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Thomas Cook and SOTC identify South India as a vital market, contributing over 50% to Bhutan's business, with significant growth potential. Launching special charters from Bengaluru to Bhutan addresses the challenge of limited air connectivity, offering its customers convenience and cost-effectiveness. The Companies charters cater to diverse traveller preferences, with unique experiences appealing to families, friends, couples, and young India.

Mr. Rajeev Kale, President & Country Head – Holidays, MICE, Visa, Thomas Cook (India) Limited, said, "We are delighted with the overwhelming response from our consumers, across Karnataka and the Southern region – resulting in a sold-out status of our inaugural Bhutan charter flight! And this has given us the confidence to operate two additional charters on 18th and 25th May.

We had handpicked Bengaluru airport as the hub/gateway for this initiative based on 3 clear opportunities: 1. Karnataka is our top source market 2. The high demand for consumers for unique destinations-experiences 3. The absence of direct connectivity for Bhutan from South India.

What is noteworthy is that all our flights are currently at a 100% booking position – reflecting a resounding success of our pioneering Bhutan Charter strategy."

Mr. Daniel D'souza, President & Country Head - Holidays, SOTC Travel Limited said, "Our charter initiative to Bhutan reiterates SOTC's sustained commitment to innovation and exceptional customer experience in this our 75th anniversary year. Our exclusive charters from Bengaluru, are aimed at empowering travellers from South India with access and convenience to Bhutan – a destination that represents a delightful diversity of stunning vistas, culture, cuisine and warm people.

Drawing on our customer feedback, and in partnership with Bhutan Tourism, Bhutan Airways and our local destination partners, our charter programs offer experiences that ensure an unforgettable journey for our customers."

Carissa Nimah, Chief Marketing Officer of the Department of Tourism Bhutan said, "This is a wonderful initiative from Thomas Cook India & SOTC, as the flight will help to boost tourism and foster closer ties between India and Bhutan. Through this charter flight, Bhutan becomes more accessible to travellers eager to explore Bhutan's unique culture and stunning landscapes, driving economic growth and cultural exchange. We see a lot





of demand to visit Bhutan from the southern states of India, and a direct flight is a wonderful opportunity to simplify the journey for the guests."

# For further details, click here:

Thomas Cook SOTC \*T&C Apply

About Thomas Cook (India) Limited: Set up in 1881, Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL) is the leading omnichannel travel company in the country offering a broad spectrum of services including Foreign Exchange, Corporate Travel, MICE, Leisure Travel, Value Added Services and Visa Services. It operates leading B2C and B2B brands including Thomas Cook, SOTC, TCI, SITA, Asian Trails, Allied TPro, Australian Tours Management, Desert Adventures, Travel Circle International Limited (TCI 勝景), Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited, Distant Frontiers, TC Tours, Digiphoto Entertainment Imaging (DEI), Go Vacation, Private Safaris East & South Africa.

As one of the largest travel service provider networks headquartered in the Asia-Pacific region, The Thomas Cook India Group spans 28 countries across 5 continents.

TCIL has been felicitated with the award for MICE Tour Operator of the Year - Outbound at SATTE 2024, Best Tour Operator at India Travel Awards North 2023, MICE Travel Operator of the Year at the Economic Times Travel & Tourism Awards 2023, winner of the Corporate Citizen Award (Travel Tourism & Hospitality) at the Corporate Citizen Conclave & Award 2023, The Outbound Tour Operator of the Year 2022 & 2019 at the SATTE Awards, IAMAI India Digital Awards 2022, CNBC-TV18 & ICICI Lombard India Risk Management Award - Travel & Leisure Category 2022 & 2021, CIO100 Award for digital innovation 2022, 'Innovation in Omniexperience' Award at International Data Corporation's (IDC) Industry Innovation Awards 2021, The Best Travel Agency – India at TTG Travel Awards 2019, The Best Outbound Tour Operator at the Times Travel Awards 2019 & 2018, Silver award for Asia's Best Integrated Report (First Time) category at the Asia Sustainability Reporting Awards 2019-2021, Best Risk Management-Framework & Systems at the India Risk Management Awards 2019; The French Ambassador's Award for Exemplary Achievements in Visa Issuance 5 years in a row and the Condé Nast Traveller – Readers' Travel Awards from 2011 to 2019.

CRISIL has reaffirmed the rating on debt programs and bank facilities of TCIL - 'CRISIL AA- / Stable' on the long-term bank facilities of TCIL and 'CRISIL A1+' rating on the short-term bank facilities and short- term debt of the company.

For more information, please visit www.thomascook.in

Fairbridge Capital (Mauritius) Limited, a subsidiary of Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited, is the promoter of TCIL with a shareholding of 63.83% of its paid-up capital.

**About Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited:** Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited is a holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is primarily engaged in property and casualty insurance and reinsurance and the associated investment management. Founded in 1985 by the present Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. V. Prem Watsa, the company is headquartered in Toronto, Canada. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol FFH and in U.S. dollars under the symbol FFH.U.

### About Subsidiaries of Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL):

### Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited

Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of TCIL is a leading leisure hospitality company with 40+ resorts, hotels and retreats across hills, beaches, jungles, waterfront, adventure, heritage, pilgrimage and drive-to locations. Sterling provides a variety of offerings: Leisure holidays through FIT packages, Meetings & Conferences, Weddings, Reunions, Picnics and Holidays through Memberships.

### **SOTC Travel Limited**

SOTC Travel Limited is a step-down subsidiary of Fairfax Financial Holdings held through its Indian listed subsidiary, Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL). SOTC Travel is a leading omnichannel travel and tourism company active across various travel segments including Leisure Travel, Incentive Travel and Business Travel.

Established in 1949, SOTC is an Indian-grown brand with a legacy of 75 years. Since then, it has escorted millions of travellers across the globe to various destinations around the globe. The Company firmly believes that today, 'No one understands the Indian Traveller better than SOTC'.





# **Travel Corporation (India) Limited**

Travel Corporation (India) Limited (TCI) (operating brands Sita, TCI and Distant Frontiers), a wholly owned subsidiary of TCIL, is the leading Destination Management Company in India that offers tailor-made travel and related services to India, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.

# **DEI Holdings Limited**

Thomas Cook India Group holds 51% stake in DEI Holdings Limited (DEI), one of the world's leading imaging solutions and services providers.

### For more information, visit:

Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited: http://www.sterlingholidays.com

SOTC Travel Limited: http://www.sotc.in

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SOTC Travel Limited: http://www.sotc.in

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