

## Akasa Air to operate over 150 weekly flights by September-end

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 20 August, 2022



Akasa Air, which started services on the Bengaluru-Mumbai route on Friday (19 August), expects to operate more than 150 weekly flights by the end of September. The airline began operations on August 7 and now flies three routes: Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Bengaluru-Kochi and Bengaluru-Mumbai.

For now, the airline will operate two daily flights in each direction on the Bengaluru-Mumbai route.

“Further expanding its operations on the Bengaluru-Mumbai route, the airline will start an additional daily flight from August 30, 2022 and another one from September 19, 2022,” it said in a statement.

A new route connecting Bangalore with Chennai will also start from September 10. According to the airline, it expects to cross 150 weekly flights by the end of September.

Akasa Air has already announced flights for six routes in five cities: Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Kochi, Bengaluru and Chennai.

Currently, the airline has three aircraft and the third was received on August 16. It plans to add a new aircraft every two weeks and its fleet size will be 18 aircraft by the end of March 2023.

Over the next four years, the airline will add an additional 54 aircraft, bringing its total fleet size to 72 aircraft.

On August 17, days after the passing of key Akasa Air investor Rakesh

Jhunjhunwala, the airline's CEO Vinay Dube said the airline is well capitalized and its growth is assured with the financial wherewithal to place an order for more planes.

"Thanks in large part to Jhunjhunwala, for which we will always be grateful, Akasa Air is a well capitalized airline with the financial wherewithal to install 72 aircraft over the next five years.

"In fact, our financial platform is strong enough to allow Akasa to place an aircraft order in the next 18 months that will be significantly larger than the first. In simple terms, our growth is certain," Dube said.

-B