

## Singapore Airlines and Air India eye closer ties

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Singapore: Singapore Airlines (SIA) and Air India are exploring opportunities to deepen their strategic partnership across various commercial activities.

In its latest quarterly report released on Thursday (Feb 20), SIA stated, "The partners are fully committed to supporting the growth and success of the Air India Group, which has a strong presence in all key segments of the Indian market."

On November 12, 2024, SIA and Tata Sons finalized the merger of Air India and Vistara, with SIA acquiring a 25.1pc stake in the expanded Air India Group. Previously, Vistara was a 51:49 joint venture between SIA and Tata, while Air India was wholly owned by Tata.

The demand for air travel is expected to stay healthy heading into the last quarter of 2024-25, even as the operating landscape continues to be

competitive, said SIA.

The group remains nimble and agile, adjusting its network and capacity as it navigates the industry-wide normalisation of yields and capacity.

The airline industry faces headwinds such as cost inflation, supply chain constraints, geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, and increased competition, cautioned SIA.

The group is well-positioned to navigate these challenges, thanks to its robust foundations, which include its strong financial standing, a talented and dedicated workforce, and industry-leading digital capabilities.

Strategic initiatives such as win-win commercial partnerships with like-minded carriers, including recent developments in South East Asia and India, allow the group to directly participate in fast-growing markets and give its customers more options and greater value.

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