

Boeing, SpiceJet Announce Order For 42 737 MAX 8s
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NEW DELHI, March 12 (Bernama) -- Boeing and SpiceJet today announced an order for 42 737 MAX 8s at India Aviation 2014.

The order, previously listed as unidentified on the Boeing Orders & Deliveries website, is valued at US\$4.4 billion at list prices.

In a statement here today, The Sun Group's Chief Financial Officer, S.L. Narayanan, said SpiceJet greatly valued the ties it had built over the years with Boeing.

"The Boeing Next-Generation 737 aircraft, the mainstay of the fleet ever since SpiceJet started operations, have vindicated our choice by their endurance, reliability and cost-effectiveness.

"The induction of Boeing 737 MAX will further modernise our fleet, improve customer experience, and ensure that we operate the most efficient fleet well into the future," he said.

The 737 MAX brings the most advanced engine technologies to the world's best-selling airplane, building on the strengths of today's Next-Generation 737.

The 737 MAX incorporates the latest-technology CFM International LEAP-1B engines to deliver the highest efficiency, reliability and passenger comfort in the single-aisle market.

Senior Vice President of Asia-Pacific and India Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Dinesh Keskar, said the order was a tremendous endorsement of the 737 MAX's unsurpassed fuel efficiency.

"The capabilities of the 737 MAX support SpiceJet's mission to become India's preferred low-cost airline.

"We are proud to be partners with SpiceJet and a part of the airline's continued success with the addition of the 737 MAX," he said.

The development of the 737 MAX is on schedule with firm configuration of the airplane achieved in July 2013.

The first flight is scheduled in 2016 with deliveries to customers beginning in 2017.

Already a market success, the 737 MAX has accumulated over 1,800 orders to date and will have

eight per cent lower per seat operating costs than the future competition.

With today's announcement, SpiceJet has ordered 90 airplanes directly from Boeing, which include the 737-800, 737-900ER and now the 737 MAX.

To date, SpiceJet has taken delivery of 31 of the airplanes.

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