



AT-TV Indian Aviation Outlook 2023

Indian aviation snapshot as 2023 begins ...



7 airlines*

692 aircraft

Revenues:
USD 11.5bn

Losses:
USD 2.7 billion

Debt:
USD 5.2bn

Passengers:
170 million

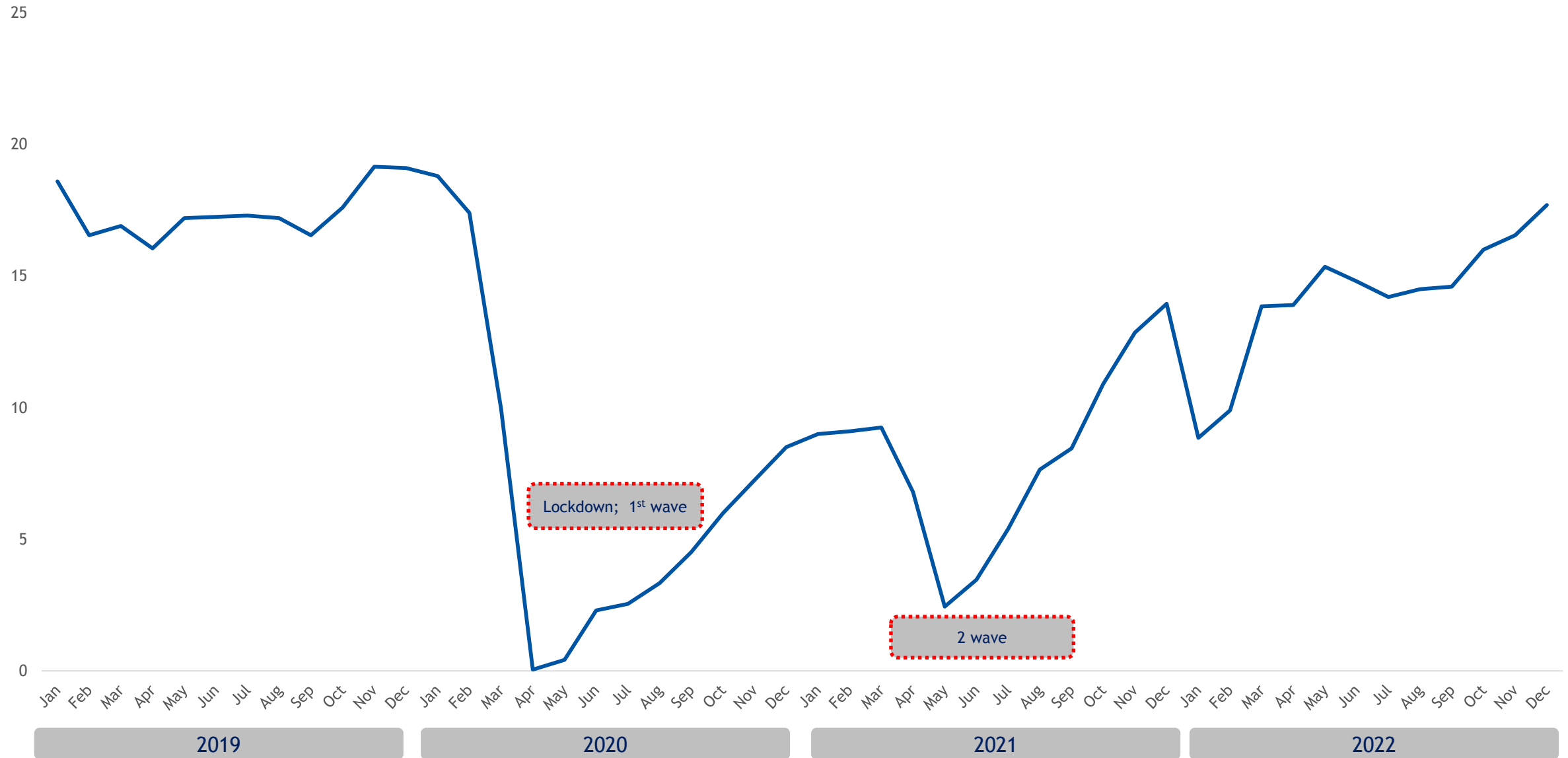
Cargo volumes:
3mn (tonnes)

Flights:
2.3mn

Resilience in air-travel patterns to continue...



But context cannot be glossed over...



Data is for total passengers flown (domestic & international) in millions

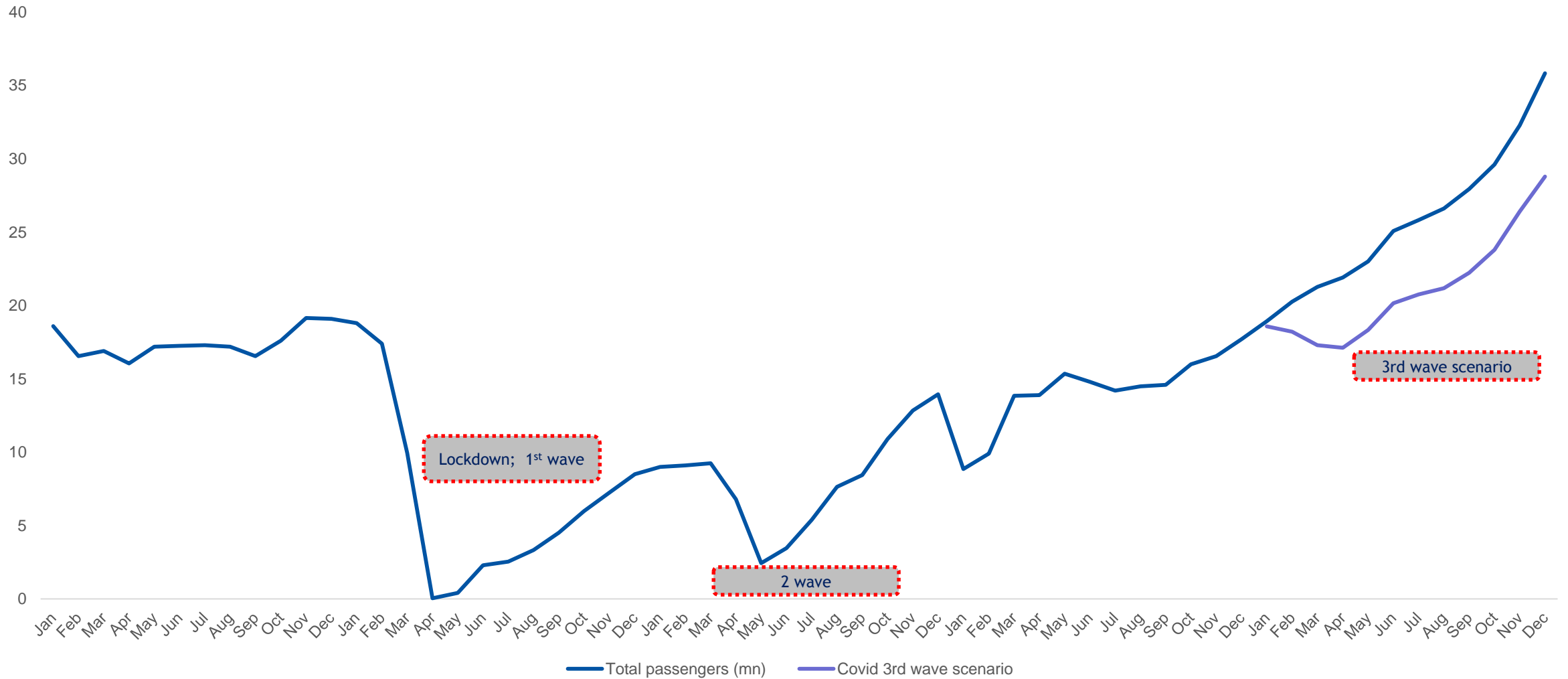
Demand holding strong; proxies reveal sentiment ...



- Hotel occupancy: **70%**
- Room rates for 5-star properties **+22%**
- Forward bookings **+18%**
- MICE segment : gradually returning
- Other proxies incl. luggage sales, inter-state travel, OTA volumes etc. confirm the sentiment

Note: comparisons of rates to FY20 (pre-pandemic) levels

A 3rd wave may cause another dip ...



2019 2020 2021/ 2022 2022

Data is for total passengers (domestic & international) in millions



But demand can be deceptive ...

Strong demand notwithstanding, profitability remains elusive



- For the financial year ending March 31, 2023 India's airlines will lose approx. **USD 3 billion+**
- Revenues for the year estimated to be **USD 12.7+** billion
- Return on invested capital remains negative
- Debt levels for the industry exceed **USD 5.3 billion** (excluding lease liabilities)
- Path to profitability for several airlines remains foggy at best (details in full report)
- Losses are in-spite of extremely high yields for stronger airlines (weaker airlines lose on both counts)
- Fuel, FX and finance costs continue to be a challenge for the industry
- Other costs including talent, technology & airport costs set to rise drastically in 2023

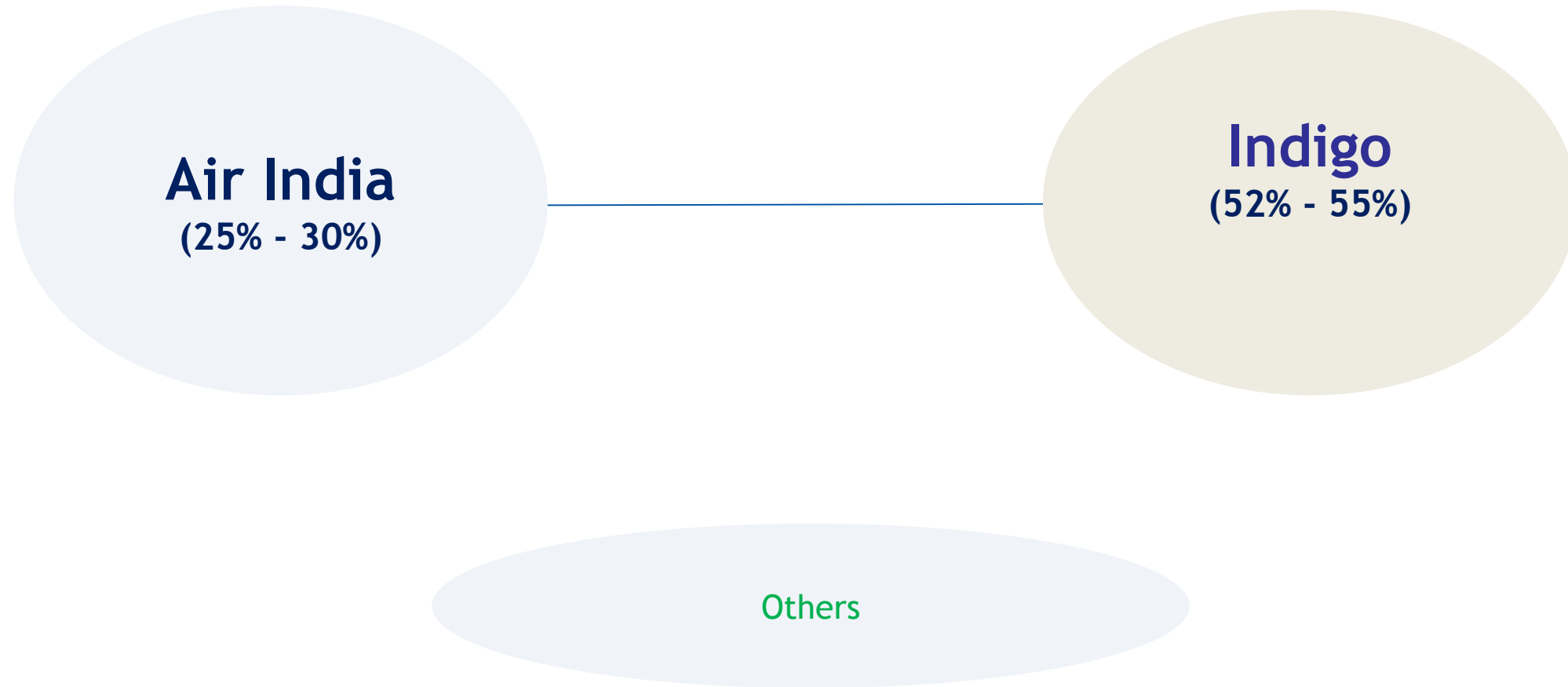
With consolidation, market dynamics have changed



Airline	Ownership	Domestic marketshare (forecasts)
Indigo	Publicly traded	52% - 55%
SpiceJet	Publicly traded	8% - 9%
GoAir (now Go First)	Privately held	6% - 8%
AirAsia India (now AIX connect)	Tata group	3% - 4%
Vistara	To be merged with Air India; majority owned by Tata group	10% - 12%
Air India	Tata group	12% - 14%
Akasa	Privately held	3% - 4%
Others	Privately held	1% - 3%

*based on transactions

2023 will see 80% of the market dominated by 2 airlines ...



The flight to quality to continue in 2023 ...



- Credit quality showing stark contrast:
 - AAA credit
 - Sustainable credit
 - Weak/very weak credit

- Given credit quality, weaker airlines taking a short-sighted view for cash flow by discounting future revenue

- Escalation clauses in current contracts (especially US dollar contracts) will impact negatively

The year ahead ...

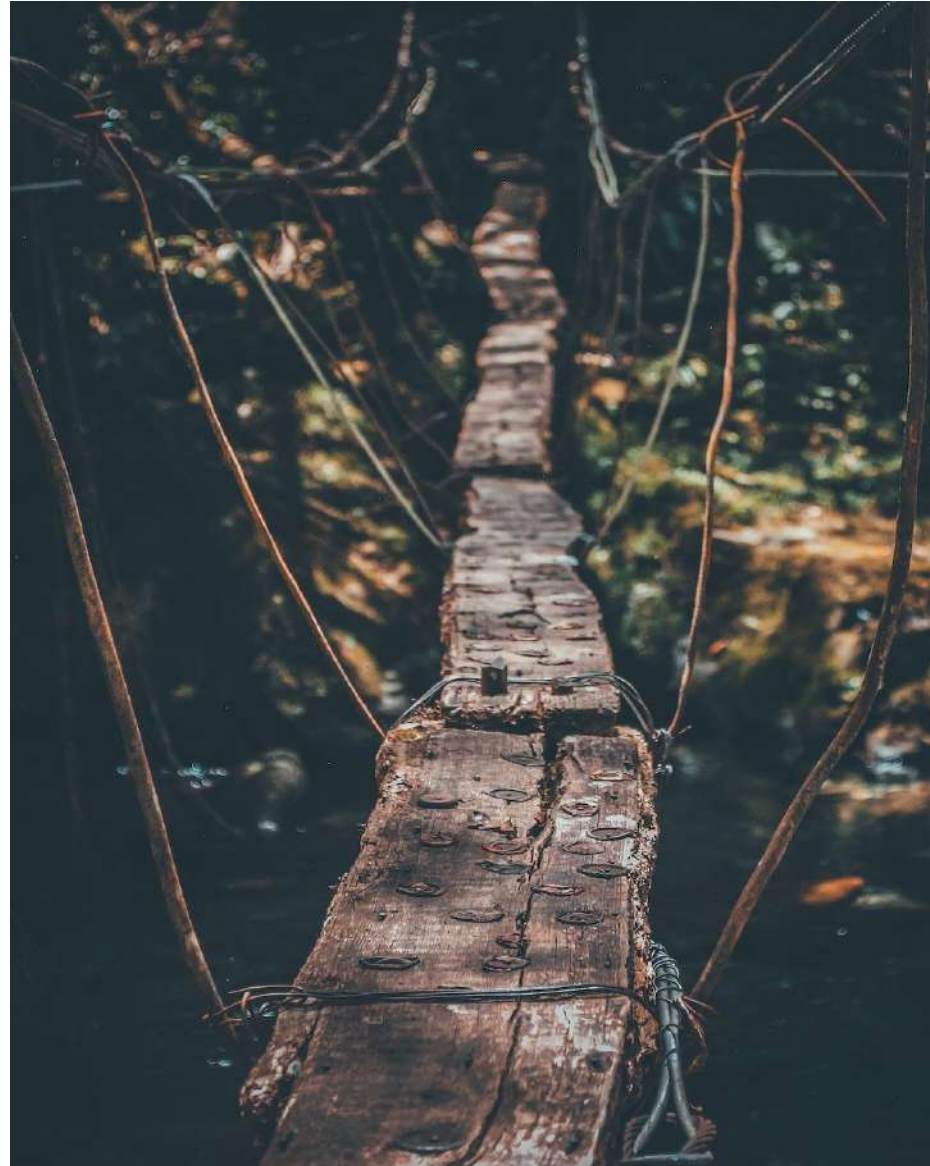


- Air travel trends to continue (forecast growth of 7%-10% for the travel market)
- 100+ aircraft to be inducted into the India market in 2023
- Bank financing continues to be constrained; rates of 9% - 15%
- USD interest creeping closer to local interest rates on a blended basis
- Rising USD interest rates to impact sale-and-leaseback terms especially for weaker credits
- No differentiation in terms of financing strategy observed
- Risk mitigating factors different for different airlines
- Stronger credits able to attract favourable terms (coupon payments, end of the year MR, lease terms)
- Credit quality driven by parent company backing and/or balance sheet strength
- International flying to gain traction - upto 30% capacity increase planned by some airlines
- Widebody deployment to gain traction; sizeable widebody orders likely
- Talent wars to continue driving up talent costs (both management and operations)
- Consolidation/ failure of one or more airlines predicted

Multiple opportunities available but risks have to be managed ...



- Sale-and-leasebacks
- Operational leases for placements
- Fleet renewal
- Fleet transitions
- Minimal wet leases
- Revised structures for supplier financing
- Buyouts (older assets)



- Recourse risk
- Default risk
- Repossession risk including technical issues
- Records availability & ownership
- Liquidity risk (no/ pseudo equity infusions)
- Known unknowns
- “Unknown unknowns”



AT-TV is engaged in Transactions, Risk Advisory & Technical Services

Contact us:

kj@at-tv.co

Mob: +91 9967710977

sp@at-tv.co

Mob: +91 9818280158