



FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

The Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation
Ministry of Civil Aviation,
Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, Sri Aurobindo Marg,
Government of India,
New Delhi-110003

Date: 23 June 2025

**REQUEST FOR INCLUSION OF INDUSTRY EXPERTS IN THE
INVESTIGATION OF AIR INDIA FLIGHT 171 ACCIDENT ON 12 JUNE 25**

Hon'ble and Respected Sir,

This letter is in continuation of our earlier communication dated 13 June 2025, sent on behalf of the Federation of Indian Pilots, expressing our profound grief over the tragic accident involving Air India Flight 171 on 12 June 2025 in Ahmedabad. As we mourn the irreplaceable loss of Capt. Sumeet Sabharwal, Capt. Clive Kunder, the ten cabin crew members, 241 passengers, and persons on the ground, we are also compelled to look ahead with resolve and responsibility.

In light of this, the Federation of Indian Pilots respectfully urges the Ministry to **formally include senior industry experts—namely, experienced commercial pilots and certified aircraft engineers—as integral members of the official investigative team** constituted to look into the circumstances leading to this accident.

Historically, accident investigations in India have been conducted without the active involvement of subject-matter experts from the field. This limits the ability to consider practical, operational insights which are vital to comprehensively understand and address contributing factors. The Federation strongly believes that the inclusion of active and recently retired professionals with extensive commercial aviation experience will significantly enhance the quality, transparency, and acceptability of the findings.

We propose that such inclusion could be structured under an advisory panel to the investigation board, or through formal secondment of nominated experts from recognised pilot and engineer bodies. This approach has been adopted internationally by aviation authorities and has proven to be effective in producing well-rounded safety recommendations.

We reiterate our offer of complete cooperation and assistance, and are ready to nominate experts from among our senior pilot members to contribute

FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

C – 1202, Lotus Corporate Park, Off Western Express Highway,
Near Jai Coach Signal, Goregoan East, Mumbai – 400063. INDIA

Mobile : +91- 8169164840 / +91 -9930408642 / +919326515166

E-Mail: office@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah 927



FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

constructively to this process. The Federation remains committed to supporting all initiatives that reinforce aviation safety, learning, and accountability.

We appreciate the Ministry's ongoing efforts in managing the aftermath of this tragedy and extend our full support in ensuring that such a loss is never repeated. Also, a Judicial enquiry be initiated simultaneously for better transparency and accountability.

With deepest respects and sincere commitment.

Yours faithfully,

Capt. C.S. Randhawa
President – F.I.P.

FEDERATION OF INDIAN PILOTS

C – 1202, Lotus Corporate Park, Off Western Express Highway,
Near Jai Coach Signal, Goregoan East, Mumbai – 400063. INDIA

Mobile : +91- 8169164840 / +91 -9930408642 / +919326515166

E-Mail: office@fipindia.com • Website: fipindia.com • Regn. No.: F-18362 Mah 927