

04 – 05 – 2023

News: Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSAIA)

- The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has announced has recently announced that India will start participating in the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSAIA) from 2027.

Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSAIA)

- Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSAIA) is an **emission mitigation approach for the global airline industry, developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and adopted in 2016.**
- The measures include **primarily offsets and "alternative" fuels.**
- CORSAIA addresses **only emissions from the international air travel that exceed the baseline of the 2020 levels.**
- Under CORSAIA, the **airlines will be required to buy carbon offsets to compensate for their growth in CO₂ emissions.**
- The carbon offsets are **generated through the implementation of the carbon reduction projects in the developing countries, with many of them linked to co-**

benefits, delivering health, economic and biodiversity benefits to the communities.

- While some routes will be exempted from the offsetting requirements, all the airlines operating international flights are mandated to monitor their fuel consumption emissions and report them to their national authorities from 1st January, 2019.
- In order to mitigate carbon emissions from aviation and its impact on climate change, the global body has adopted several key aspirational goals. Among them are: 2% annual fuel efficiency improvement through 2050, carbon neutral growth and net zero by 2050.
- CORSIA Scheme is envisaged in 3 phases: Pilot (2021-2023) and first phases (2024-2026) are voluntary phases whereas second phase (2027-2035) is mandatory for all the member States.
- India has decided not to participate in the voluntary phases of CORSIA.

International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)

- International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) is a specialized agency under United Nations ECOSOC, established in 1944, which laid the foundation for the standards and procedures for peaceful global air navigation.

- The Convention on International Civil Aviation was signed on 7th December 1944 in Chicago.
- It established the core principles permitting international transport by air, and also led to the creation of the ICAO.
- One of the objectives of ICAO is to foster the planning and development of international air transport so as to ensure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation throughout the world.
- India is among its 193 members. Every UN recognized nation except Lichtenstein is a member (lacking an international airport), along with Cook Islands. Despite Liechtenstein not being a direct party to ICAO, its government has delegated Switzerland to enter into the treaty on its behalf, and the treaty applies in the territory of Liechtenstein.
- It is headquartered in Montreal, Canada (Montreal Convention).
- The ICAO standards never supersede the primacy of national regulatory requirements. It is always the local, national regulations which are enforced in, and by, sovereign states, and which must be legally adhered to by air operators making use of applicable airspace and airports.