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PALPA NEWS BULLETIN

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*Affiliated with
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INTRODUCTION:

By this time the membership is fully aware of the deal achieved by PALPA Executive Committee after prolonged negotiations, which at times frustrated the members. The Executive Committee kept the process moving, never lost patience and the perseverance of months of negotiations finally resulted in achieving what is now in black and white as the Circular No. 36. There were moments when the response seemed to be slow but we never lost sight of the target which we were determined to achieve. We never for a moment wanted the pressure or disappointment passed on to the members, as we had decided that we have to keep our resolve and act as a buffer between the Community and the Management. Not all, but there have been negotiations in the past when PALPA Executive Committees had brought the entire cause of the Association to a brink of disaster. The community was left in a lurch with its ramifications lasting for years. We are quietly proud of our achievement which has brought about a fair adjustment in our salary and emoluments, with a quantum change around the corner.

Here we should not lose sight of the fact that Allah has been on our side in providing us guidance during the negotiations. This is a Rizk-e-Halal bestowed by Him on us, our families and dependants. A sincere Thank You is due on all of us to the Omnipotent.

This discourse would be incomplete if the patience and resolve about our membership is not highlighted. The strength and courage shown by all of you motivated the Executive Committee to carry

on the mission till it reached its logical conclusion. The entire Executive Committee is undoubtedly thankful for your support, understanding and patience.

The Management's negotiating team headed by the Deputy Managing Director and the Chairman's final approval deserves our commendation.

Notwithstanding its slow pace, the entire process was handled professionally which resulted in resolving the issue amicably.

ALL IN ALL IT IS INDEED A SATISFACTION TO ALL OF US.

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL COMMENDATION MESSAGE.

Dear Members,
Assalam-o-Alaikum

Let me take the opportunity here to extend my heartiest commendations to the following Executive Committee members, who deserve this for their extreme efforts in recent salary/restructurization process and other issues.

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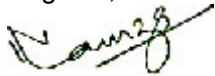
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1. A special thanks to F/O. Arif Majeed, the General Secretary, for his untiring efforts over a prolonged period of six months.
2. F/O. Sadiq Rehman for helping out in the negotiations.
3. F/O. Badar Janjua for completing FDM course in Karachi and Geneva as PALPA's representative.
4. F/O. M. Khalid for his efforts in formulating L/R/ULR operations.
5. Special commendation for F/O. Mujeeb Ahmed, the co-opted member for his tireless efforts in preparing the working of salary enhancement/restructuring and being available at all times.

As President I wish them a rewarding career in the Airline on my behalf and the entire membership.

Regards,



Capt. Khalid Hamza
PRESIDENT

PALPA ANNUAL DINNER & PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:

Dear Members:

The PALPA Annual Dinner and distribution of Awards/Shields Ceremony was held on Saturday 15th April 2006. Air Marshal Nur Khan was the Chief Guest.

Guests from PIA, Civil Aviation, representatives of fellow Associations and Unions, other distinguished guests and number of dignitaries attended the dinner. A large number of members including retired members with their spouses graced the occasion.

After the recitation of Holy Quran; F/O. Arif Majeed General Secretary PALPA welcomed the guests.

He praised the presence of the distinguished guests, and members, which made the occasion memorable.

The Annual Dinner and distribution of Shields, which should have been arranged every year was held on Saturday 15th April 2006 after 'leap' year. The last time it was held in the tenure of 2000-2001 Executive Committee. This year's Annual Dinner was very well attended and the legendary Air Marshal M. Nur Khan graced the occasion. The Chief Guest noted that it was after a lapse of almost three decades that he has been invited to attend any function of PIA or any association affiliated with PIA. We feel proud to inform you that PALPA broke this long spell for him by inviting the Air Marshal as the Chief Guest, which was indeed our privilege and honour.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY F/O. ARIF MAJEED:

A portion from the General Secretary's address is quoted here:

"When the Air Marshal took over PIA in 1959, PIA was flying Dakotas, Super Constellations and Viscount type of aeroplanes. It was his initiative and far-sightedness that brought in B-707s, the first commercial jets not only in Pakistan but also in Asia. The Airline prospered and thrived like no other airline in the region. It would not be wrong to mention here that PIA then could be compared with the present Emirates or Singapore Airlines; both of these actually took off with PIA's assistance and expertise. The introduction of B-747 in the PIA fleet was also during his second term in PIA.

"The modernization through such aircraft was indeed a giant leap in the Aviation Culture of the area. However, no amount of modernization can deliver until it is backed up with a well-motivated and satisfied work force. He had the courage and acumen to directly deal with the employees and their representative bodies. He was an expert in the art of human resource utilization and firmly believed in motivation of the employees while giving full attention to task monitoring."

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT PALPA CAPT.
KHALID HAMZA :**

Extract from the President's address is quoted here:

"Today we have gathered here to distribute commemorative shields to our retired colleagues on retirement after their long and dedicated service to the airline and to the community of pilots. Their devotion, dedication and professionalism have been beyond words, and their contribution to the growth of PIA cannot be undermined. It was a pleasure and privilege for me and many others here to be their colleagues in the air and on the ground.

"PALPA is also committed to implementing the standards and recommended practices of ICAO, IFALPA, and maintains active liaison, cooperation and consultation with all national (CAA) and associated international organizations whose interest are aligned with the promotion of safe aviation environment.

"It is my proud privilege to present the Life Time Membership of the PALPA Club to our honoured Chief Guest Air Marshal Nur Khan. I hope, Sir, you would visit us as and when you happen to be in Karachi. It would be our honour if you choose to stay in the Club, where we would make all efforts to make your stay as comfortable as possible."

The presentation ceremony was followed by an exquisite dinner. Overall, it was an event enjoyed by every one present.

**ADDRESS BY CHIEF GUEST
AIR MARSHAL NUR KHAN :**

The Chief Guest Air Marshal Nur Khan spoke in a forthright and candid way. He was of the view that the Airline will only prosper and regain its glory if the Management and Association support each other.

He also advised the Association not to support people who work against the ethics and discipline, which in turn adversely affect the working relationship. He showed his concern as to how is the Airline still operational when the PIA management has not been given an open hand and is subservient to the Ministry of Defence and the Government. He suggested that a free hand should be given to the higher management and in turn, the management should seek advice and support of the employees through their respective Associations/Unions. This was essential because it is always convenient and workable to interact with the duly elected representatives.

He opined that the history of PIA needs to be recorded in the form of a book. He said that PALPA being a financially sound Association could easily afford to hire an expert to research and compile the history of PIA. The PALPA Executive Committee would discuss this suggestion and take a decision after due deliberations in the Executive Committee meeting.

After his address, President PALPA requested the Chief Guest to distribute the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Special Awards to the pilots who have retired or have brought laurels to the Associations.

After the Shields distribution, President PALPA presented a Shield to the Chief Guest in acknowledgement of his acceptance of the PALPA Club Life Time Membership as a Honourary Member. A lapel pin of PALPA was also pinned on his jacket.

PALPA CLUB HOUSE IDENTITY CARDS:

PALPA Club Secretary has decided to issue new Club ID Cards to the members and their families. To prepare the same, individuals are requested to furnish the data on the form enclosed herewith. The pictures of lady wives or grownup daughters are optional. Kindly respond back as soon as possible so that the project can be taken in hand.

Members are also requested to procure the new car stickers from the PALPA office to facilitate identification at the entrance.

NOMINATION FORMS :

On scrutiny, PALPA Executive Committee has discovered that most of the members have not filled up their Nomination Forms at PALPA, PODF and with the Admin Manager, Flight Operations PIA. Experience shows that unnecessary complications arise when the Nomination Forms are not completed. We urge all those members who have not yet updated / filled in their nomination forms to do so at the earliest. PALPA Nomination Form is enclosed herewith for your convenience.

HOSPITAL LISTS :

For your convenience, the PALPA Executive Committee has procured the current list of hospitals, which are on the PIA panel. The list for each base is being enclosed herewith for your record. In an event of any emergency, kindly inform your families to keep the PALPA Executive Committee and respective RVPs in the picture especially so when you are away on flights. There have been instances when the families have gone through tough times handling the problems themselves.

IFALPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE ISTANBUL (TURKEY) :

PALPA Executive Committee was represented at the 61st IFALPA Annual Conference at Istanbul by the President, General Secretary (officiating IFALPA Director) and Joint Secretary-III. The Conference was as usual an ideal forum for interaction amongst the participants of Pilots Associations from around the world. Many pressing issues affecting Aviation Industry were discussed, which included Fuel Price Hike, ULR challenges, impact of Low Cost Carriers and emerging technologies.

The Country Report on Pakistan was presented by the IFALPA Director with the emphasis on the following issues:

- POLITICAL & ECONOMIC SITUATION.
- SUSPENSION OF WORKING AGREEMENT.
- NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MANAGEMENT.
- WORKING CONDITIONS.
- FLIGHT DUTY TIME LIMITATIONS.
- CREW SHORTAGE.
- ULTRA LONG RANGE.
- PILOT EXODUS.

In concision it was emphasized that the Association hopes to get an agreement signed with the Management which would be a precursor to solving numerous other issues. The Working Conditions, sorting out of ULR operations, hiring/employing pilots on permanent basis and many other outstanding pending problems could be solved amicably which could encourage pilots to stay on and disregard seeking jobs abroad.

In the concluding session, the PALPA Chief delegate Capt. Khalid Hamza presented a Pakistani Carpet to the host Association, the Turkish ALPA. This presentation of Pakistani product is a tradition, which PALPA is carrying on for more than a decade now.

PALPA Executive Committee would like to thank the Chairman PIA who authorized the expenses involved in attending the subject Annual Conference.

MEDICAL GROUNDINGS :

PALPA Executive Committee is immensely concerned at the alarming number of medical groundings, which have taken place in the recent past. As a representative body, we have highlighted this state of affairs to the Chairman PIAC, besides higher ups in the Government. The plausible reasons were brought to their notice with a request to correct the situation by inducting more pilots, improving working conditions and enhancing financial compensation to restrain pilots from flying excessively. We would also like to request the members to look after their health for their own sake and that of their families.

SUMMER EVENTS :

PALPA Club Secretary is planning to have an eventful summer during the school holidays this year. The Swimming Pool is already functional. We wish to see larger numbers using the facility as a lot of efforts, time and finances have gone into maintaining the pool and other Club facilities in top order.

The planned events would be in-house movies, tambola, BBQ and Musical Evenings etc. Your response would determine the frequency and success of these events and their subsequent continuation.

A thrice a week Dars-e-Quran for girls, housewives and their friends is being conducted since 1st June 2006. Ladies interested in this religious programme are requested to register themselves in the PALPA Club House at the earliest to enable us to make adequate arrangements.

Your suggestions and participation will be highly welcomed.

PALPA DINNER AT ISLAMABAD :

A very well attended PALPA dinner was arranged in Best Western Hotel, Islamabad. The occasion was graced by Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Junaid Jamshed and Saeed Anwer. The members and their families attended the function in fairly large numbers.

The evening was started with the Recitation of Holy Quran. Mr. Junaid Jamshed, Mr. Abbasi and Dr. Arshad, gave talk on Islamic, Industrial and Medical issues respectively.

The President PALPA gave a brief overview of negotiations concluded recently with the Management without elaborating the details of the discussions; he emphasized the importance of Executive Committee's absorbing the entire pressure and working selflessly in achieving what it eventually succeeded in getting. He also appreciated the efforts of the Executive Committee besides highlighting the cooperation and patience shown by the membership. The address was followed by the presentation of PALPA shields to the members based in Islamabad. Thereafter, a sumptuous dinner was served which was enjoyed by all.

KIDNEY DONATION :

It is with extreme sadness that we announce the permanent grounding of Capt. AN Khan. He has a seriously impaired kidney function and is undergoing dialysis. The doctors have recommended a kidney transplant to improve his quality of life and avoid related complications.

Members are requested to help him out by finding a willing donor on payment or otherwise or with any information that might be beneficial for him. His blood group is B negative which is rare group; the reason for this appeal.

CDS' FOR TRANSITION TRAINING :

PALPA has the requisite CDs required during the transition training of B-737, A-310 and B-777s. The same are available at Rs.100 per CD and can be bought from Mr. Noman Ahmed at PALPA. The cost includes the price of blank CD, the downloading and associated wastage, if any. Members may avail of this for their benefit before they embark on any transition training.

Price non-negotiable.

ADDITIONAL LOSS OF LICENCE INSURANCE FROM PICIC IN US DOLLARS:

We have been often asked by the membership of the Association to arrange insurance coverage in respect of Loss of Licence Insurance in addition to the Loss of Licence Insurance of PIA and PODF Trust. Whereas, PIA provides cover to a limited extent, which is obviously not enough when compared with the other airlines providing the same to their pilots. PIA has not enhanced its Loss of Licence Insurance since 1995.

Recently, we approached PICIC Insurance Company for Loss of Licence Insurance in US Dollars and received a positive reply. They have asked for some information, which shall be provided to them very soon.

As soon as we receive their rates of premium and amount of coverage, we shall let you know the progress.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to your valuable suggestions.

PICIC CAR INSURANCE :

Membership has appreciated the rates offered by the PICIC Insurance Company for comprehensive insurance of their cars @ 3.5%, which is the lowest, as compared to other reputable Insurance Companies.

For the convenience of members, and those who are interested in getting their cars insured through PICIC, we are once again providing the contact numbers of Mr. Khalid Jameel Mobile Nos. 0320/4060333 and 0321/2432646 or they can contact PALPA office during working hours.

PALPA WEB SITE :

A new elaborate PALPA Website has been developed and is functional in PDF format (Acrobat Reader).

You are requested to sign-up the form and submit it back to PALPA so that your User ID and Password may be communicated on your given e-mail address.

Kindly furnish your suggestions/comments for further improvement of the Website.

OBITUARY

With profound grief, we inform our members that Captain (Retd.) M. I. Rehman, our senior colleague, left us for his heavenly abode (**INNA LILLAHE WA INNA ELLAHI RAJEON**).

Following of our colleagues lost their loved ones, as mentioned against each:

1. Capt. Abdul Aziz Brother
2. Capt. Ishtiaq Qureshi Father-in-law
3. F/O. Ikram Father-in-law
4. F/O. (Retd) Asad Niazi Mother
5. Capt. Intikhab

We pray to Almighty Allah to give courage to their families and relatives to bear this irreparable loss. May the departed souls rest in peace Ameen!

LATE NEWS:

Capt. Intekhab expired on 6th June 2006 after a prolonged illness. We have lost a thorough colleague and a professional. May Allah bless him in his eternal life. AMEEN!

LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF PILOTS.

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