

India's Jet Airways to buy 75 Boeing jets in multi-billion dollar order

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A Jet Airways Boeing 737 pictured in 2015: the airline has announced an order for 75 Boeing 737 MAX planes

Indian airline Jet Airways has entered an agreement to buy 75 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft in a deal that could be worth more than \$7 billion.



The country's second-largest airline made the announcement to the Mumbai stock exchange late Tuesday.

The company did not specify which model of the narrow-body jet it planned to purchase, or whether it had placed a firm order rather than a memorandum of understanding.

The deal could be worth anywhere between \$7.2 billion and \$9.7 billion, depending on the type of jet acquired and based on list prices. Airlines often negotiate discounts on major orders.

India is witnessing a boom in air travel as its growing middle class takes to the skies. Airlines are rapidly expanding their fleets to capture a slice of this market.

There has been a six-fold increase in passenger numbers over the past decade as Indians take advantage of better connectivity and cheaper fares thanks to a host of low-cost airlines.

The Centre for Aviation based in Australia predicts India will overtake Britain as the world's third-largest market by 2025 and will have 478 million fliers by 2036.

India's largest airline IndiGo last year announced a <u>deal</u> to buy 50 small planes from French manufacturer ATR.

The majority of Jet Airways' fleet are Boeing aircraft.

Boeing says the 737 MAX is the fastest-selling airplane in its history, with more than 4,300 orders received.

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