

With Rs 2.5 crore investment 'Flight4fantasy' provides virtual flying experience in Koramangala

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KORAMANGALA: While flying, one always wonders what goes on in a cockpit. Our exposure to them only being the captain's crisp voice and movies which tell us what happens in them.

Now, Deepak Agarwal and K Vybhav Srinivasan, seem to capitalise on the same curiosity as they start Flight4fantasy, a [flight simulation center](#), providing an experience of virtual flying at Forum Mall, Koramangala.

The first of its kind facility was started in April this year with their own investment of about Rs 2.5 crore as initial investment. A flight simulator is a device that provides an imitation of real-life flying experience, using realistic [environment](#), functional controls, visuals and audio.

fligh4fantasy's takeoff

Deepak Agarwal and Vybhav Srinivasan, both are [chartered accountants](#) by qualification. Prior to Flight4Fantasy, Deepak was working with the [Aditya Birla Group](#) and RSM & Co and Vybhav worked with [PricewaterhouseCoopers](#) for 12 years.

Deepak was from a business family and was bitten by the entrepreneurial bug while Vybhav had been passionate about flight simulation and has been one of India's most well known home cockpit builder.

He is also on the board of governor and public relations director of an online flight simulation community, International Virtual Aviation Organisation; Executive vice president of Mycockpit.org, an online home cockpit builders community, a news editor on Avsim, a flight simulation community.

Around 2009, while Vybhav was pursuing his flight simulation hobby and Deepak was looking for an entrepreneurial venture; over casual discussions they thought of introducing flight simulation in India for both training and as well as [entertainment](#).

But the plan was dropped as they believed that it would be a commercial non-starter as [Indian flight simulation market](#) was quite primitive. The discussions revived in 2011 and they took the plunge. The training segment was trimmed since it already had a few established players and has a direct relation to aviation industry.

Strategic Koramangala

Koramangala's cosmopolitan character made it the ideal location for a flight simulation endeavour. "Forum Mall has been a strategic location for us as the cosmopolitan flavour here is contributed to by the IT professionals," reasoned Deepak Agarwal. The company reached break-even in the first month and footfalls increased by 20 percent and the business grew by 15 percent -20 percent.

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Help for aspiring pilots

There are probably a large number of pilot aspirants. The concept of flight stimulation in India seems to help youngster to crystallise their career in Aviation. Koramangala being home to colleges and institutes, garners many young customers. [Abhishek Manohar](#), 22, a regular visitor of [flight4fantasy](#) aspires to join aviation.

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