

PRESS RELEASE

GMR Aviation Academy & Gramax Launch Aviation Cyber Security Phygital Lab

Hyderabad, 12th October 2023: GMR Aviation Academy (GMRAA) in association with Gramax Cybersec(GMR Group entity) recently launched a first-of-its-kind Phygital Lab along with their partner Information Sharing & Analysis Center(ISAC) at the GMR Hyderabad International Airport . GMRAA has allocated 10,000 sft to develop the new Hyderabad Campus that houses the Aviation Cyber Security Phygital Lab. Cyberange is the Tech partner and technology solution provider. ISAC is the knowledge partner who has designed detailed training program with GMR Aviation Academy to develop Cyber Security capabilities both in freshers as well as working professionals in the country. The Phygital lab stands as a beacon of innovation, aiming to tackle the ever-evolving challenges posed by global adversaries. It will be available for conducting training programs for cybersecurity teams on the nuances of protecting Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) from cyber-attacks.

Speaking on this occasion Shri. Patimeedi Jagan Mohan Rao, TSTS Chairman, Govt. of Telangana said, "Hyderabad is undergoing a transformation, emerging as a major technology hub. This growth has been bolstered by the establishment of the world's largest innovation campus and various initiatives spearheaded by the Telangana Govt. under the able leadership of Honourable CMKCR. Along with the development, we need to emphasise the Cyber Security domain and offer training programs to combat cyber threats and attacks. The Aviation Cyber Security Phygital Lab and CXO Cyber War Gaming leadership workshops along with Cyber Security Training initiatives will be instrumental in shaping a secure environment. I would like to extend my best wishes to all partners and industries participating in these events and training programs."

Speaking about the initiative Mr SGK Kishore-Executive Director-South-Airports and Chief Innovation Officer, GMR Airports said, "The Aviation Cyber Security Phygital Lab, an amalgamation of the virtual and physical realms will act as a centralized hub for cultivating cybersecurity expertise across the aviation ecosystem. It will address the critical need for an immersive training that arms aviation professionals with the skills, insights, and practical experience needed to counter emerging cyber threats effectively. This lab underscores GMR Group's commitment to staying at the forefront of innovation in the aviation industry and the evolving cybersecurity landscape."



The Phygital Lab has all the latest IT, IOT & SCADA devices installed which form part of any Aero-city development. It would simulate around 30 Aero-city related cyber-attack scenarios as part of its training modules related to Cyber Security. The lab features an extensive range of simulated scenarios few of which are:

- 1. Unauthorized access to air traffic control systems
- 2. Malware infection in baggage handling systems
- 3. Ransomware affecting flight scheduling and operations
- 4. IOT device manipulation leading to malfunction of communication systems, flight information displays, Boarding pass kiosks etc.
- 5. Social engineering attacks compromising security personnel

The Phygital lab is a proactive initiative developed for airport management, cybersecurity professionals, air traffic control personnel, aviation regulators, and law enforcement agencies. The lab incorporates an array of advanced technologies like IoT devices, OT systems, physical cyber range setups, and cutting-edge cybersecurity tools.

About GMR Aero Academy

The academy conducts training programmes accredited by Airport Council International (ACI), International Air Transport Association (IATA), International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) with focus on the Asia Pacific, Middle East and African regions. It is the only one of its kind in India to have been conferred with the "Regional Training Center of Excellence" stature of ICAO and the "Global Training Hub" by the ACI. It is also an Authorized Training Center and Accredited Training School of IATA.

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