Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. Thomas Cook Building, Dr. D. N. Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400001 Board: +91-22-6160 3333 CIN: L63040MH1978PLC020717

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Thomas Cook Travel Smooth thomascook.in

5th October, 2018

The Manager, Listing Department **BSE Limited** Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers Dalal Street Mumbai – 400 001 **Scrip Code: 500413** 

Fax No.: 2272 2037/39/41/61

The Manager, Listing Department **National Stock Exchange of India Limited** Exchange Plaza, 5th Floor, Plot No. C/1 G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E) Mumbai – 400 051 **Scrip Code: THOMASCOOK** 

Fax No.: 2659 8237/38

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Ref: Submission of information pursuant to Regulation 30 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

## Sub: Press Release

We are enclosing herewith the Press Release dated October 05, 2018: 'Thomas Cook India Group enters the travel tech space, announces strategic investment to acquire 24% stake in Ithaka'.

This is for your information and records.

Thank you, Yours faithfully, For **Thomas Cook (India) Limited** 

Amit J. Parekh Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Encl.: a/a

Holidays • Business Travel • Foreign Exchange • Visas • Insurance

Registered Office: Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. Thomas Cook Building, Dr. D N Road, Fort Mumbai - 400 001.

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Thomas Cook Press Office: 022 42427380

## Thomas Cook India Group enters the travel tech space, announces strategic investment to acquire 24% stake in Ithaka

• Ithaka is a chat based mobile application to serve the rapidly growing FIT segment, combining automation & real traveller expertise to plan & book

**Mumbai**, October 5, 2018: The Board of Thomas Cook India has approved the acquisition of a 24% strategic stake in TravelJunkie Solutions Private Limited, a Mumbai based travel tech start-up via its wholly owned subsidiary TC Tours Ltd.

TravelJunkie Solutions Private Limited developed Ithaka – a chat-based mobile application serving FIT (Free Individual Travellers) customers by recommending authentic local experiences for different destinations and helping plan their trip and book activities, hotels and flights.

Ithaka's unique app based service offers users a potent combination of cutting edge automation via AI/ML based technology and the farmed collective expertise of a community of well-travelled individuals. Ithaka currently serves travellers across various international destinations and plans to expand rapidly over the next 18 – 24 months with the support of Thomas Cook India.

Speaking on the occasion, Madhavan Menon, Chairman of the Thomas Cook India Group said "We are very excited with this strategic investment that also marks our first investment in the exciting travel tech space. Ithaka is a perfect marriage of cutting edge technology and human expertise delivered in a user-friendly mobile chat format. For Thomas Cook, the partnership with Ithaka creates a new channel that reaches and serves millennials, while for Ithaka, the partnership delivers an end to end, bookable experience. The business model also resonates perfectly with the hybrid technology + personalisation approach of the Thomas Cook Group in our constant endeavour to innovate and deliver a seamless customer experience to new age travellers"

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About Thomas Cook (India) Limited: Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. (TCIL) is the leading integrated travel and travel related financial services company in the country offering a broad spectrum of services that include Foreign Exchange, Corporate Travel, MICE, Leisure Travel, Insurance, Visa & Passport services and E-Business. The company set up its first office in India in 1881.

The Thomas Cook India Group spanning 24 countries across 4 continents, a team of over 7590 and a combined revenue in excess of Rs. 11,411.6 Cr. (over \$ 1.75 Bn), operates leading B2C and B2B brands including, Thomas Cook, SOTC, TCI, SITA, Asian Trails, Allied T Pro, Australian Tours Management, Desert Adventures, Travel Circle International Limited, Private Safaris East & South Africa. The Group is today one of the largest travel service provider networks headquartered in the Asia-Pacific region.

CRISIL has placed its rating of 'CRISIL AA-' on the long-term bank facilities of TCIL on 'rating watch with developing implications', while reaffirming its 'CRISIL A1+' rating on the short-term bank facilities and short-term debt of the Company.

Thomas Cook (India) Ltd has been felicitated with The Best Outbound Tour Operator and Leading Company with Cutting Edge Travel Innovation at the Times Travel Awards 2018, Excellence in Domestic Tour Operations at the SATTE Awards 2018, Best Travel Entrepreneur of The Year at TTG Travel Awards 2017, The French Ambassador's Diamond Award for Exemplary Achievements in Visa Insurance– 2015, 2016 & 2017 and the Condé Nast Traveller – Readers' Travel Awards from 2011 to 2016. For more information, please visit www.thomascook.in

Thomas Cook (India) Limited is promoted by Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Fairbridge Capital (Mauritius) Limited and its controlled affiliates which holds 66.98%. Fairbridge is responsible for the execution of acquisition and investment opportunities in the Indian subcontinent on behalf of the Fairfax family of companies.

About Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited: Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited is a holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged in property and casualty insurance and reinsurance and investment management. The company was founded in 1985 by the present Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Prem Watsa. The company has been under present management since 1985 and is headquartered in Toronto, Canada. Its common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol FFH and in U.S. dollars under the symbol FFH.U.

The company, through Thomas Cook (India) Ltd., owns 49.02% of Quess Corp Limited, a provider of integrated business services, and 100% of Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited, a company engaged in time share and resort business.

About Quess Corp: Quess Corp Limited (BSE: 539978, NSE: QUESS), is India's leading business services provider. At Quess, we excel in helping large and emerging companies manage their non-core activities by leveraging our integrated service offerings across industries and geographies which provides significant operational efficiencies to our clients. Quess has a team of over ~261,700 employees across India, North America, South America, South East Asia and the Middle East across segments such as Industrials, Facility Management, People Services, Technology Solutions and Internet Business. Quess serves over 1,700+ clients worldwide. Established in 2007, Quess is headquartered in Bengaluru, India and has a market cap of over USD 2.3 Bn as on March 31, 2018.

About Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited: Sterling Holiday Resorts Limited, a leading holiday lifestyle company in India, was incorporated in 1986 with the vision of delivering great holiday experiences to Indian families. To achieve this vision, the company pioneered Vacation Ownership in India and set about building a network of leisure resorts at some of the best holiday destinations in India. Currently, Sterling Holidays has an inventory of 2124 rooms across 32 resorts.

In March 2016, Sterling Holidays acquired 'Nature Trails Resorts Private Limited' - an adventure holiday company that operates resorts at four unique destinations in Maharashtra. For more information, please visit <u>www.sterlingholidays.com</u>

About SOTC Travel Limited: SOTC Travel Limited (formerly known as SOTC Travel Private Limited) is a step-down subsidiary of Fairfax Financial Holdings Group; held through its Indian listed subsidiary, Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL). SOTC is a leading travel and tourism company active across various travel segments including Leisure Travel, Incentive Travel and Business Travel.

TCIL through its Subsidiary holds100% stake in Travel Circle International Limited, which has an attractive business in the travel sector backed by a trusted brand name, and a stable and motivated professional management team. The company is a premium outbound travel operator in Hong Kong. For more information please visit <u>www.sotc.in</u>

**About the recent acquisitions:** TCIL recently completed the acquisition of TC Forex Services Limited (Formerly known as Tata Capital Forex Limited) (TC Forex) and TC Travel Services Limited (Formerly known as TC Travel and Services Limited) (TC Travel). TC Forex offers travel related foreign exchange products including Currency notes, Travel Cards and Traveller's cheques and TC Travel offers a wide range of services including Airline ticketing, Booking Hotel accommodation, Visa and Passport facilitation, Travel insurance etc.

## Media Enquiries:

Thomas Cook (India) Limited: Suzanne Pereira: +91-22-42427380; +91-9820297665; suzanne.pereira@in.thomascook.com Adfactors PR: +91 9867567534; rahul.jain@adfactorspr.com; +91 9910069384; divyata.kalhans@adfactorspr.com

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