

Pune Airport adds Marathi to Udaan Café nameboard

Ankit Shukla

PUNE

Two days after an uproar among people over skipping Marathi on the Udaan Yatri Café nameboard, the airport administration has changed it, and now the board has names in three languages — Marathi, Hindi, and English.

After the launch of the Udaan Café at Pune airport, several social media users had pointed out that the board had skipped a mention in Marathi.

Speaking to The Free Press Journal (FPJ), Airport Director Santosh Dhoke said, "The decision was made yesterday after the Airport Authorities became aware of the issue. We have instructed everyone to ensure that all signboards and symbols are displayed in three languages: Marathi, Hindi, and English."

The Udaan Café, which offers passengers affordable refreshments with tea and water priced at just Rs10, and coffee, samosas, and sweets at Rs20, was launched in the Pune International Airport on Monday, Apr 28. The initiative, which has already received an overwhelming response at Kolkata, Ahmedabad, and Chennai airports, aims to



make air travel more comfortable and pocket-friendly for the common man.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation previously launched the 'Udaan' (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) scheme with the goal of making air travel accessible to the average citizen. Although the scheme significantly boosted air travel from smaller, non-metro cities, high food and beverage costs at airports continued to discourage cost-conscious travellers. For many frequent flyers, the inflated prices at terminal food outlets meant skipping meals or refreshments altogether.

At present, the debate over the use of Marathi and Hindi in Maharashtra is intensifying. Social media has been flooded with videos of altercations, where Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS)

workers have engaged in arguments on multiple occasions. In Maharashtra, nameboards must be displayed in Marathi, and MNS has staged protests in support of this regulation. The Supreme Court, in its order of Sep 25, 2023, gave two months to install Marathi nameplates and made them mandatory.

In another ongoing issue of Marathi vs Hindi in the state, the introduction of the three-language formula for classes 1 to 5 is a key part of the new curriculum under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The state school education department has outlined a phase-wise implementation plan for the new curriculum framework, designed in line with the recommendations of NEP 2020 for school education.



Corporate Communications Directorate

TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

4 MAY 2025

2 jets abort landings as copter flies near airport

Washington: Federal transportation safety officials were investigating on Friday after two commercial flights aborted landings because an army helicopter had entered the airspace around Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, where helicopter traffic has been restricted since a fatal collision in January.

Air traffic controllers instructed Delta Air Lines Flight 1671 and Republic Airways Flight 5825 to abort their landings around 2.30 pm on Thursday because of the helicopter's presence, according to the Federal Aviation Administration, which has begun an investigation along with the National Transportation Safety Board.

The helicopter was a Black Hawk headed to the Pentagon, the safety board said. Both planes later landed safely.

"Our helicopter restrictions around DCA are crystal clear," transportation secretary Sean Duffy said in a social media post, using the airport's code. He said he would speak to the defence department about "why the hell our rules were disregarded".

Kol airport's longest taxiway reopens after a year, to ease ground traffic

Was Out Of Service For Repair Work

Subhro Niyogi
& Tamaghna Banerjee | TNN

Kolkata: Over half of taxi track A, the longest taxiway at Kolkata airport that was out of service due to repairs, was reopened on Friday along with taxiway C, which was also shut for upgrade.

The reopening of the two taxi tracks will significantly reduce ground bottlenecks at Kolkata airport and increase operational capacity. Sources said even runway occupancy time of aircraft will reduce as they use taxiway C to exit and

CLOSEST TO TERMINAL, 2,940 METRES IN LENGTH



The taxiway is among the oldest at Kolkata airport

- > Portion of taxiway A that was shut for reconstruction **1,644 m**
- > Section of taxiway A that was available for operation | **1,296 m**
- > Length of taxiway A that will now be available **2,940 m**

roll onto taxiway A.

While taxiway A, the closest one to the terminal, is 2,940 m in length, 1,644 m was closed for upgrade. "The taxiways are among the oldest at Kolkata airport and were being strengthened as part of

the operational and apron area upgrade," said an airport official.

Airlines officials said the development would help ease ground traffic movement, particularly during busy hours. "Earlier, there were fe-

wer busy hours at Kolkata airport. But with flights now distributed all through the day, there are six to seven peak hours. If taxiway A and the parallel taxitrack F are both in operation, it is a great help," said an official.

A pilot also pointed out that the availability of the entire taxiway A allows flights to switch the direction of operations between north and south when weather changes.

An airport official said the reopening of taxiway A will also be crucial for uninterrupted flight operation during the Airport-New Barrackpore metro work. "Since the boundary wall of the airport will have to be temporarily shifted inside the airport compound during metro construction, large aircraft used by international airlines will be unable to use taxiway N and P that allows departing aircraft to move straight to the northern end of the primary runway. These aircraft will then be able to use taxiway A," the official said.



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TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

3 MAY 2025

Airport gets hoax explosion call; FIR filed

Mumbai: Sahar police have registered an FIR after the city international airport's passenger contact centre received a hoax bomb blast call on April 30, around 5.35pm.

The caller, who identified himself as Pradeep Kumar Shivkumar Sahani, said that an explosion had occurred at the airport and authorities and politicians should be informed. The airport authorities held an urgent meeting and soon verified that the information given by the caller was false. Sahar police were informed and they registered a case.

In a similar incident, police received a phone call around 2am about a "bag with a bomb" lying at a residential apartment in Andheri East, but it too turned out to be a hoax. Sahar police verified that the caller was an autistic youth. After checking his medical papers, police did not press charges against him, but cautioned his family. **TNN**

Corporate Communications Directorate

ASIAN AGE

DELHI

3 MAY 2025

Setback to Pak as major intl airlines avoiding its airspace

Air India estimates \$600m in losses as Islamabad closes airspace

VINEETA PANDEY
NEW DELHI, APRIL 2

In what has come as a blow to Pakistan, some of the major international European carriers like Lufthansa, British Airways, Air France, Swiss, LOT Poland, and ITA Italy are reportedly avoiding the nation's airspace voluntarily despite having an easy passage over it.

After the Pahalgam terror attack, India announced a series of punitive measures against Pakistan. In a bid to punish New Delhi, Islamabad had closed its airspace for Indian carriers. However, in the process, it is getting a bloody nose in the "airspace war".

In the wake of the escalating tensions and anticipating military action between the two countries, a majority of international carriers are

found to be avoiding Pak airspace, leading to huge financial loss to it in terms of overflight fees. This can be in the range of \$60,000 daily for 737 Boeings at the rate of \$600 per flight. For the bigger 777 Boeing flights, this fee can be between \$1,000 to \$1,700 per flight.

Even though the flights to and from India are now more costlier and longer than before, international airlines are not willing to take a chance in this peak travel season.

For its own operators, the Indian government is mulling other shorter alternative routes to Central Asia, West Asia, Europe and the US, as Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, Akasa, and SpiceJet rerouted their journey after the closure of Pak airspace. Together they operate about 100 flights a day on interna-

FOR ITS operators, India is mulling other shorter alternative routes to Central Asia, West Asia, Europe and the US, as Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, Akasa and SpiceJet rerouted their journey after the closure of Pak airspace

tional routes. As per an estimate, Indian carriers are expected to lose anything between ₹70 to ₹80 crores weekly in this standoff situation. Reuters reported that Air India has sought a subsidy from the Indian government for the affected international flights till the time overflight ban is in place as it faces about \$600m losses if the ban stays for a longer period. Among the Indian airlines, Air India has the highest number of flights on international routes

using the Pak air space.

With the Indian airspace closing down for Pak carriers, its flights have to now take a much longer route than what Indian planes have to take by avoiding its air space. For instance, PK849 which flies from Islamabad to Sepang in Malaysia has to fly through the Southeast Asia route via China and Thailand to reach its destination instead of its original route that crossed over India. This not only is more time consuming but also a fuel-guzzling trip, leading to high operational costs.

Despite this, Pakistan has closed the airspace of Karachi and Lahore in specific regions from 8 am to 4 pm daily until May 31. It had earlier closed airspace from April 28 to 30 between Islamabad to Lahore for its military flight movements.

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ASIAN AGE

DELHI

3 MAY 2025

Greenfield airport & 15 heliports: Odisha's ambitious aviation push

**AKSHAYA
KUMAR SAHOO**
BHUBANESWAR, MAY 2

In a decisive move to upgrade the state's aviation infrastructure, the Odisha government has announced plans for a new greenfield airport in Paradip. Chief minister Mohan Charan Majhi, chairing a key meeting at Lok Seva Bhavan on Friday evening, emphasised the government's commitment to developing aviation facilities that meet global standards, with a focus on modernisation and capacity enhancement.

The proposed Paradip airport is expected to significantly boost regional connectivity and strength-

▶ **THE ODISHA CM** has also directed the swift advancement of the Shri Jagannath Airport project in Puri, a priority initiative aimed at improving connectivity to the popular pilgrim and tourist destination

en Odisha's position in the national aviation network. Alongside this, the chief minister directed the swift advancement of the Shri Jagannath Airport project in Puri, a priority initiative aimed at improving connectivity to the popular pilgrim and tourist destination.

In a broader strategy to enhance aerial access across the state, the government also announced

plans to develop heliports in 15 districts. This initiative is intended to improve intra-state connectivity, particularly in remote and underserved regions.

Further discussions during the meeting addressed the future development of the Biju Patnaik Aviation Centre at the Birashole airstrip in Dhenkanal, with the public works department appointed as the nodal agency to expedite the project.

Upgradation plans for Rourkela airport were also reviewed, alongside proposals to enhance infrastructure at several other key airports in Jeypore, Dandabose, Rangelunda, Gotama, Sati-bhata, and Raisuan.

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

4 MAY 2025

खराब मौसम की वजह से 84 उड़ानों में हुआ विलंब

जागरण संवाददाता, पश्चिमी दिल्ली: आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर शनिवार को उड़ानों में विलंब के कारण यात्रियों को परेशानी हुई। खराब मौसम और तकनीकी खामियों के चलते अंतरराष्ट्रीय और घरेलू उड़ानों का परिचालन प्रभावित हुआ। एयरपोर्ट अधिकारियों के अनुसार, 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के प्रस्थान और नौ के आगमन में देरी हुई, जबकि घरेलू उड़ानों में 55 प्रस्थान और तीन आगमन विलंबित रहे। इसके अलावा, हैदराबाद और मुंबई के लिए कुछ उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं।

डायल ने एडवाइजरी जारी कर बताया गया कि भारतीय मौसम विभाग के पूर्वानुमान के अनुसार, सुबह सात बजे से नौ बजे तक मौसम खराब होने से कुछ उड़ानें प्रभावित हो सकती हैं। एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन ने बताया कि वे एयरलाइंस और एयर ट्रैफिक कंट्रोल (एटीसी)

टर्मिनल तीन पर ई-रिवशा पहुंचने का वीडियो प्रसारित

शनिवार को आइजीआइ के टर्मिनल तीन पर एक ई-रिवशा के पहुंचने का वीडियो एक्स पर प्रसारित हो रहा है। टर्मिनल तीन पर ई-रिवशा और सार्वजनिक परिवहन को अनुमति नहीं है, फिर भी यह टर्मिनल क्षेत्र में देखा गया। एयरपोर्ट ने कहा कि यह घटना पहले की है, जिसमें ई-रिवशा चालक को नियमों की जानकारी दे दी गई थी।

के साथ मिलकर उड़ान शेड्यूल में आई बाधा को कम करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। यात्रियों से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे उड़ानों से संबंधित जानकारी के लिए अपनी संबंधित एयरलाइंस से संपर्क करें।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

RS DANIK JAGRAN

DELHI

4 MAY 2025

आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर खराब मौसम की वजह से 84 उड़ानों में विलंब

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय (आइजीआइ) एयरपोर्ट पर शनिवार को उड़ानों में विलंब के कारण यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। खराब मौसम और तकनीकी खामियों के चलते अंतरराष्ट्रीय और घरेलू उड़ानों का परिचालन प्रभावित हुआ। एयरपोर्ट अधिकारियों के अनुसार, 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के प्रस्थान और नौ के आगमन में देरी हुई, जबकि घरेलू उड़ानों में 55 प्रस्थान और तीन आगमन विलंबित रहे। इसके अलावा, हैदराबाद और मुंबई के लिए कुछ उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं।

सुबह से ही एयरपोर्ट पर यात्री परेशान दिखे। उन्होंने उड़ान रद्द होने और देरी की जानकारी समय पर न मिलने की शिकायत की। वहीं, हैदराबाद जाने वाली उड़ान रद्द होने से कई यात्री परेशान रहे। डायल की ओर से एडवाइजरी जारी करते हुए बताया गया कि भारतीय मौसम विभाग के पूर्वानुमान के अनुसार, सुबह सात बजे से नौ बजे तक मौसम खराब होने की वजह से कुछ उड़ानें प्रभावित

हैदराबाद और मुंबई के लिए कुछ उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं

हो सकती हैं। एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन ने बताया कि वे एयरलाइंस और एयर ट्रैफिक कंट्रोल (एटीसी) के साथ मिलकर उड़ान शेड्यूल में आई बाधा को कम करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। यात्रियों से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे उड़ानों से संबंधित जानकारी के लिए एयरलाइंस से संपर्क करें। एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन ने कहा कि खराब मौसम की वजह से उड़ानों का शेड्यूल गड़बड़ा गया। यात्रियों को सुरक्षित और आरामदायक यात्रा अनुभव सुनिश्चित करने के लिए काम किया जा रहा है।

टर्मिनल तीन पर ई-रिक्शा के पहुंचने का वीडियो प्रसारित: आइजीआइ के टर्मिनल तीन पर एक ई-रिक्शा के पहुंचने का वीडियो एक्स पर प्रसारित हो रहा है। टर्मिनल तीन पर ई-रिक्शा व सार्वजनिक परिवहन को अनुमति नहीं है, फिर भी यह टर्मिनल क्षेत्र में देखा गया। दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट ने कहा कि यह घटना पहले की है, जिसमें ई-रिक्शा चालक को नियमों की जानकारी दे दी गई थी।



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FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

3 MAY 2025

As summer peaks, airfares are sky high

Rocketing prices (Normal fare in bracket)	To other places (Increase in %)
₹18,291 (₹2,900) Mumbai- Bengaluru (Air India)	Kolkata 247% Lucknow 225%
₹15,570 (₹2,700) Mumbai-Goa (Air India)	Chennai 207% Delhi 161%
₹18,181 (₹4,400) Mumbai-Bhuj (Air India)	Bhubaneswar 127% Jaipur 122%
₹16,443 (₹4,049) Mumbai-Ahmedabad (Akasa Air)	Amritsar 38%



FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

With the beginning of the summer vacation, domestic airfares have increased for various sectors across the country. The fares for flight tickets for some sectors have increased by more than a whopping 500%.

While thousands of Indians plan their holidays and visits to their hometowns, the domestic airline sector has burdened travellers with a massive hike in airfares. Air travellers on the domestic sectors originating from Mumbai are witnessing unbelievable increase in airfare.

Flights originating from Mumbai have seen a consider-

able jump in their fares during holiday season compared to the normal rates. The biggest hike was recorded in Air India's flight to Bengaluru at ₹18,291 for May 9, a jump of a shocking 530% against its normal rate of ₹2,900.

Similarly, Air India flight for Goa's Manohar International Airport is fared at ₹15,570 for May 10, a jump of 480% against its normal rate of ₹2,700. Similarly, Air India's flight to Bhuj fared at ₹18,181 for May 6, an increase of 320% against its normal fare of ₹4,400. Ahmedabad also saw an increase of 306% as Akasa Air's flight on May 8 is fared at ₹16,443 against the regular fare of ₹4,040.

Other sectors across the

country have also seen airfare hike of more than 100%. Mumbai to Kolkata airfares have increased by 247%, Lucknow by 225%, Chennai by 207%, Delhi by 161%, Bhubaneswar by 127%, Jaipur by 122% and Amritsar by 38% against the normal airfare.

A study published by the Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific & Middle East in November had revealed that India saw a 43% rise in domestic airfares in the first half of 2024, compared to the pre-pandemic levels. The study, which was conducted by examining airfare trends across 6 lakh routes in 19 countries from 2019 to 2024, claimed that India saw the second-highest airfare hike after Vietnam at 63%.

Chennai flight searched in Colombo over alert on Pahalgam terror suspect

Meera Srinivasan

R. Sivaraman

COLOMBO/CHENNAI

A flight from Chennai that arrived in Colombo on Saturday was subjected to a detailed security search, following information from Indian authorities that a suspect linked to the Pahalgam terror attack could be among the travellers, the Sri Lanka Police said.

All passengers, including transit passengers, were thoroughly screened, and no one with the identity provided by Indian authorities was found, a top Sri Lankan official told *The Hindu*.

In a statement issued on Saturday, Sri Lankan Airlines, the island's national carrier, said flight UL-122, which arrived in Colombo from Chennai at 11.59 a.m., was subjected to "a com-



Security check: All passengers were thoroughly screened, an official said. FILE PHOTO

prehensive security search" upon arrival. "This was carried out in coordination with local authorities following an alert from the Chennai Area Control Centre regarding a suspect wanted in India who was believed to be on board," the statement said.

Pre-planted explosives

At Chennai, tense moments prevailed among officials after the Chennai Airport Director received a mail claiming that five ter-

ror operatives were aboard a Sri Lankan Airlines flight bound to Colombo with a plan to activate pre-planted explosives in Chennai airport.

The mail was received at 9.55 a.m. on Saturday, claiming that five men on the the Sri Lankan Airlines flight UL-122 were Lashkar operatives. "Their real plan was to activate pre-planted explosives in Chennai airport... Trigger method hidden signal via mobile phone," said the mail. The airport authority immediately alerted the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and local police to the threat mail. Sources said by the time of receipt of the mail, the flight had departed and was midway. Immediately, the Area Control Centre (ATC) and the authorities in Colombo were alerted.



Corporate Communications Directorate

TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

3 MAY 2025

Direct flights to Diu from May 16

Ahmedabad: Direct flights connecting Ahmedabad and Diu will begin on May 16, offering travellers an affordable way to explore the Union territory and coastal destinations. The flights, operated five days a week (Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sun-

day), will be serviced by a 50-seater Embraer ERJ-145 aircraft.

The flight will depart from Ahmedabad at 9.50am and reach at Diu at 10.50am. The one from Diu to Ahmedabad will depart at 11.20am and arrive at 12.20pm. TNN



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TIMES OF INDIA

BANGLORE

3 MAY 2025

6 flights diverted due to bad weather

Bengaluru: Bad weather conditions at Kempegowda International Airport Friday evening forced the diversion of six flights to Chennai.

The flights included a cargo one from Hong Kong, while the rest were domestic services.

A spokesperson for Bangalore International Airport Limited, operator of KIA, said the diversions took place between 6.10pm and 6.40pm.

The domestic flights belonged to IndiGo and Air India, arriving from Dehradun, Bagdogra, Rajkot, Hyderabad and Delhi. However, the weather did not impact flight departures from Bengaluru. TNN