

LGBI Airport T-2 begins int'l operations



STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 2: The Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport on Thursday commenced international flight operations from the newly inaugurated Terminal-2, marking a significant milestone in the airport's expansion and modernisation.

The Guwahati-Paro flight was the first international departure from Terminal 2, while the inaugural international arrival was a flight from Singapore.

To mark the occasion, arriving and departing passengers were accorded a traditional Assamese welcome,

featuring *gamosa* felicitation, lamp lighting, cake cutting, distribution of saplings and welcome drinks.

The inaugural event was attended by representatives of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Customs, Immigration, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), airlines and airport authorities.

Officials said the commencement of international operations from Terminal 2 is expected to significantly enhance passenger convenience, improve operational efficiency and strengthen Guwahati's connectivity with international destinations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

एयरपोर्ट की हर परियोजना की होगी स्वतंत्र निगरानी

नई दिल्ली। देश के सबसे व्यस्त इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय (आईजीआई) एयरपोर्ट पर चल रही बड़ी विकास परियोजनाओं की गुणवत्ता, सुरक्षा और समयबद्ध प्रगति सुनिश्चित करने के लिए नई निगरानी व्यवस्था लागू की जा रही है। इसके तहत एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया (एएआई) ने स्वतंत्र इंजीनियर नियुक्त करने की प्रक्रिया शुरू कर दी है। यह इंजीनियर एयरपोर्ट पर बनने वाली प्रत्येक बड़ी परियोजना की निष्पक्ष समीक्षा करेंगे और अपनी रिपोर्ट सीधे एएआई को सौंपेंगे।

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों की लगातार बढ़ती संख्या को देखते हुए

एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया ने स्वतंत्र इंजीनियर नियुक्त करने की प्रक्रिया शुरू की

टर्मिनल विस्तार, एयरसाइड सुविधाओं, तकनीकी प्रणालियों और अन्य बुनियादी ढांचे का तेजी से विकास किया जा रहा है। करोड़ों रुपये की इन परियोजनाओं में गुणवत्ता और सुरक्षा मानकों का पालन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अब स्वतंत्र निगरानी व्यवस्था लागू की जा रही है।

नई व्यवस्था के तहत निर्माण कार्यों की नियमित जांच, प्रगति की समीक्षा और निर्धारित तकनीकी मानकों के अनुरूप निगरानी होगी। व्यूरी



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

नोएडा से श्रीनगर के लिए कनेक्टिंग फ्लाइट आज से

यमुना सिटी। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से शनिवार से यात्रियों को श्रीनगर के लिए भी उड़ानें मिलनी शुरू हो जाएंगी। इंडिगो एयरलाइंस ने जम्मू के बाद अब श्रीनगर के लिए भी उड़ानें शुरू कर दी हैं। हालांकि श्रीनगर जाने वाली फ्लाइट अभी कनेक्टिंग है। यात्रियों को एक स्टॉपज लेना होगा।

एयरपोर्ट से अभी इंडिगो और अकासा एयर ही उड़ानों की सुविधा यात्रियों को दे रहा है। इंडिगो ने श्रीनगर के लिए टिकटों की बुकिंग शुरू कर दी है। 4 जुलाई को इंडिगो का फ्लैग श्रीनगर के यात्रियों को लेकर उड़ान भरेगा। शनिवार को श्रीनगर के लिए दो कनेक्टिंग उड़ानें होंगी पहली फ्लाइट

सुबह 6:10 मिनट पर और दूसरी सुबह 10:05 मिनट पर श्रीनगर के लिए उड़ान भरेगी।

इंडिगो ने नोएडा से श्रीनगर की कनेक्टिंग उड़ान शुरू की है। एयरपोर्ट से शनिवार सुबह 6:10 बजे श्रीनगर के यात्रियों को लेकर पहला विमान उड़ेगा। यह 7:10 मिनट पर चंडीगढ़ एयरपोर्ट पहुंचेगा। यहां से यात्रियों का विमान बदला जाएगा जिसके बाद वह श्रीनगर की यात्रा के लिए उड़ान भरेगा। वहीं श्रीनगर के यात्रियों को लेकर दूसरा विमान सुबह 10:05 बजे उड़ान भरेगा। यह विमान सुबह 11:20 बजे जम्मू पहुंचेगा। व्यूरी



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

जोधपुर एयरपोर्ट के नए टर्मिनल का भी उद्घाटन



क्षेत्रफल	लागत	यात्री क्षमता (अनुमानित)	
2,52,000 वर्ग फीट	480 करोड़	1,000 प्रति घंटे में	20 लाख साल भर में

सुविधाएं • 6 एयरब्रिज, 20 चेक-इन काउंटर और 8 प्रवेश द्वार।

डिजाइन: इसमें जसवंत थड़ा और उम्मेद भवन की कलात्मक झलक है।

शनिवार को प्रधानमंत्री जोधपुर एयरपोर्ट के नए टर्मिनल भवन का उद्घाटन करेंगे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

Funding challenge looms as govt scales up airport capacity

AKBAR MERCHANT
Mumbai, July 3

THE COUNTRY'S AVIATION infrastructure is entering its biggest expansion cycle yet, but funding the next decade of airport development while ensuring long-term financial viability will remain the sector's defining challenge. According to a Brickwork Ratings report, India will require investments of around ₹3 lakh crore by 2030 to create capacity for 500-600 million passengers and develop 55-60 new airports. An alternate estimate puts the investment requirement at ₹1.2 lakh crore to accommodate an additional 120 million passengers across nearly 30 new airports.

The sector has expanded rapidly over the past decade, with the number of operational airports increasing to 163 from 74 in 2014. Passenger traffic during April-January FY26 stood at 350.49 million, comprising 281.78 million domestic and 68.71 million international travellers.

MONEY MATTER



■ To develop 55-60 new airports, India will require investments of **₹3 lakh cr** by 2030

■ Currently, number of operational airports is **163**

■ There were **74** airports in 2014

According to IATA, India is projected to become the world's third-largest air passenger market by 2030, with passenger numbers expected to reach 480 million by 2036.

The investment pipeline reflects this growth trajectory. As of FY26, 205 airport projects worth ₹3.7 lakh crore are at various stages of development,

including 131 projects valued at ₹2.5 lakh crore that are under implementation. Over the past five years, 84 projects worth ₹75,000 crore have been completed, while another 66 projects worth ₹85,000 crore have been announced. Projects valued at ₹47,000 are expected to be commissioned between FY27 and FY29. Key developments include the Navi Mumbai, Pune, Jewar, Sriperumbudur and Bhiwadi airports, along with capacity expansion projects at Bengaluru, Delhi and Hyderabad airports.

Despite the sizeable capital expenditure, Brickwork Ratings expects the sector's credit outlook to remain "stable" through FY27, supported by structural growth in passenger traffic, a robust greenfield airport pipeline and deleveraging by major operators. "The sector's credit trajectory through FY27 is expected to remain Stable, underpinned by structural passenger growth, an active greenfield pipeline, and deleveraging at major operators," the report said.

LOKSATYA

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

निजी हवाई अड्डा संचालकों ने लैंडिंग और पार्किंग शुल्क पर रियायत खत्म करने की मांग की

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्या।

निजी हवाई अड्डों के संगठन एपीएओ ने नागर विमानन मंत्रालय से आग्रह किया है कि घरेलू उड़ानों के लिए लैंडिंग और पार्किंग शुल्क पर दी जा रही 25 प्रतिशत रियायत को 6 जुलाई के बाद समाप्त किया जाए तथा हवाई अड्डा संचालकों को एयरलाइंस से यह शुल्क पूर्ण रूप से वसूलने की अनुमति दी जाए।

पश्चिम एशिया तनाव के बीच नियामक ईआईएए ने सात अप्रैल को सभी प्रमुख हवाई अड्डों पर घरेलू उड़ानों के लिए लैंडिंग और पार्किंग शुल्क में तीन महीने के लिए 25 प्रतिशत कटौती की अनुमति दी थी। यह निर्णय एयरलाइंस को राहत देने के उद्देश्य से लिया गया था। निजी हवाई अड्डा परिचालक संघ (एपीएओ) ने मंत्रालय



को लिखे पत्र में कहा है कि यह राहत असाधारण और समयबद्ध उपाय के रूप में दी गई थी। लेकिन अब भू-राजनीतिक स्थिति में काफी स्थिरता आने और ऐसे समर्थन की जरूरत वाली स्थितियां काफी हद तक कम हो जाने से निर्धारित अवधि के बाद रियायत जारी रखना उचित नहीं होगा।

एपीएओ ने कहा कि हवाई अड्डों पर स्थायी लागत और चल रहे निवेश का बोझ बना हुआ है और रियायत को लंबा खींचने से ईआईएए द्वारा अनुमोदित

- हवाई अड्डा संचालकों को एयरलाइंस से यह शुल्क पूर्ण रूप से वसूलने की अनुमति दी जाए

राजस्व आवश्यकताओं की वसूली कम हो सकती है, जिससे वित्तीय स्थिरता और भविष्य के बुनियादी ढांचा विकास पर असर पड़ेगा। संगठन ने सुझाव दिया कि राहत अवधि के दौरान जो लैंडिंग शुल्क नहीं वसूला गया है, उसे 2026-27 में संबंधित प्राधिकरण को देय राजस्व हिस्सेदारी या रियायती शुल्क से समायोजित करने की अनुमति दी जाए। इसके बाद इस राशि को ऑपरेटर द्वारा 'ट्रूंग अप' प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से वसूली के पश्चात ब्याज या जुमाने के बगैर जमा किया जा सकता है। एपीएओ 16 हवाई अड्डा संचालकों का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW

3 JULY 2026

Assam pushes aviation expansion as CM seeks faster approval for Silchar Greenfield Airport

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
■ New Delhi

Assam has stepped up efforts to expand its aviation infrastructure, with Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma urging the Centre to expedite approval for the proposed greenfield airport at Silchar during a meeting with Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu on Thursday.

The meeting, held at the Union Minister's office in Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, focused on accelerating key aviation projects aimed at strengthening air connectivity and positioning Assam as a major aviation and logistics hub in the Northeast.

According to the Chief Minister, discussions covered the status of six proposed greenfield airports in the state at Silchar, Manas, Umrangso, Majuli, Diphu, and Charaideo, along with a proposed heliport at Haflong.



Sarma said the state Government has completed most of the preparatory work for the Silchar airport project and requested the Ministry of Civil Aviation to fast-track the approval process so that construction can move forward without delay.

For the remaining proposed airports, both sides agreed to expedite pre-feasibility studies to enable the projects to progress to the next stage at the earliest. The meeting also reviewed the ongoing expansion of Rupsi Airport, which has become an important regional aviation facility serving western Assam.

Speaking after the meeting, Sarma said the state Government views aviation infrastructure as a key driver of economic growth, adding that improved air connectivity would not only enhance passenger movement but also strengthen logistics, boost tourism, improve access to remote regions and create new investment opportunities.

The proposed greenfield airports are expected to significantly improve regional connectivity and support Assam's broader strategy of emerging as a transportation and logistics gateway for Northeast India.



Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

3 JULY 2026

नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट का नेटवर्क बढ़ा

ग्रेटर नोएडा। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट (एनआईए) से 15 जून से कॉमर्शियल ऑपरेशन शुरू होने के बाद उड़ानों की संख्या बढ़ गई है।

■ नौ नए शहर जुड़े, अब रोजाना 34 उड़ानों का संचालन

नेटवर्क विस्तार में नौ शहर बुधवार को जुड़े। एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन की योजना अगले दो सप्ताह में श्रीनगर के लिए भी उड़ान शुरू करने की है। अभी 14 शहरों के लिए विमानन सेवा उपलब्ध रहेगी। एयरपोर्ट से कॉमर्शियल ऑपरेशन शुरू करने के लिए लखनऊ से पहली उड़ान आई

थी। बुधवार से इसे नियमित कर दिया गया। सुबह 8.05 बजे यह विमान लखनऊ से नोएडा एयरपोर्ट पहुंची। शाम के समय लखनऊ के लिए फ्लाइट वापसी के लिए शेड्यूल की गई है। इसी तरह बंगलुरु भी लखनऊ से नोएडा होते हुए शेड्यूल किया गया है। लखनऊ से आने वाली फ्लाइट को ही ले-ओवर नोएडा में दिया गया है। एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन के अनुसार जल्द ही श्रीनगर सहित कई अन्य शहरों के लिए भी उड़ान सेवाएं शुरू की जाएंगी। अभी एयरपोर्ट से 14 शहरों के लिए कुल 34 उड़ानों का संचालन होगा। मुंबई और लखनऊ के लिए प्रतिदिन दो-दो फ्लाइट रहेंगी।



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AMAR UJALA

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

एअर इंडिया ने कुछ अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों पर घटाया ईंधन अधिभार

नई दिल्ली। एअर इंडिया ने कुछ चुनिंदा अंतरराष्ट्रीय मार्गों पर ईंधन अधिभार (फ्यूल सरचार्ज) घटा दिया है। इससे यूरोप, उत्तरी अमेरिका और ऑस्ट्रेलिया की यात्रा सस्ती हो जाएगी। वैश्विक बाजार में जेट ईंधनों की कीमतों में नरमी के बीच ऐसा करने वाली एअर इंडिया पहली भारतीय एयरलाइन बन गई है। एअरलाइन ने यूरोप जाने वाली उड़ानों के लिए प्रति यात्री ईंधन अधिभार को अप्रैल के 205 डॉलर से घटाकर 125 डॉलर कर दिया है। उत्तरी अमेरिका और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के लिए 280 डॉलर से घटाकर 200 डॉलर किया गया है। व्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

3 JULY 2026

Hit by operational headwinds, SpiceJet slashes flights by 44%

AIR POCKETS. Airline returns leased aircraft; fleet reduction impacting performance

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

SpiceJet has scheduled 44 per cent fewer flights in July compared to April amid a tough operating environment and return of wet leased aircraft.

In fact, the airline's operating fleet size has shrunk to around 12-13 planes compared to over 30 a few months ago and this has resulted in temporary suspension of services to several destinations including Chennai, Guwahati and Varanasi.

Data from aviation analytics company Cirium show that SpiceJet has scheduled 2,326 flights in July compared to 4,156 in April — which marks the start of its



PARING CAPACITY. Fleet size has shrunk to 12-13 planes from over 30 a month ago

summer schedule.

OPERATIONS DECLINE
Directorate General of Civil Aviation data show a decline in actual operations with 2,956 scheduled departures in May compared to 4,812 in January.

The reduction took place

as the airline began returning leased planes. At the same time, an increase in jet fuel price and depreciating rupee made operating environment tougher.

Fleet reduction has impacted the airline's on-time performance too and, on punctuality, SpiceJet ranks

below its competitors. An industry analyst pointed out that SpiceJet schedules are designed for more aircraft than what the airline has at present resulting in delays across the network. Passenger ire against the airline is mounting.

MAINTENANCE CHECKS

"Some of our aircraft are currently undergoing scheduled maintenance. We expect three aircraft to join in July, followed by two in August upon completion of their maintenance checks, and a further two aircraft each in September and October," he said.

"In addition, we plan to induct 10 aircraft each in October and November under lease arrangements," he added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

3 JULY 2026

SpiceJet's retreat from Chennai hits passenger traffic and air cargo

T E Raja Simhan
Chennai

The near-complete withdrawal of SpiceJet from Chennai has not only reduced competition in the city's domestic aviation market and pushed up airfares but has also disrupted air cargo movement, particularly to destinations in southern Tamil Nadu, industry stakeholders said.

About a decade back, Chennai airport was one of SpiceJet's key operational bases, with over 25 daily flights.

Even until April this year, the airline operated 12 daily flights connecting Chennai with Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Kolkata, Kochi, Hyderabad, Shivamogga, Pune and Bengaluru.

Those services have now been suspended as the airline grapples with financial and operational challenges, including aircraft shortages and reliance on wet-leased aircraft, sources said.

FLIGHT MAINTENANCE

SpiceJet said the suspension is temporary and flights to Chennai will resume in October after scheduled maintenance.

The airline's absence has left IndiGo with a dominant position on several domestic routes from Chennai, with Air India providing limited competition.

Travel agents say the reduced competition has translated into higher ticket prices, particularly on routes where SpiceJet had traditionally offered lower fares.

"There is virtually no competition now, so fares have

increased. Many middle-income travellers are flying only when absolutely necessary and are increasingly choosing road or rail transport," said Devaki, a Chennai-based travel agent.

Industry observers said the impact extends beyond passenger travel.

AIR CARGO

SpiceJet's passenger aircraft carried substantial volumes of belly cargo, especially shipments destined for southern Tamil Nadu. With the airline's services suspended, much of this cargo has shifted to road transport, increasing transit time and logistics costs for businesses.

Air cargo operators said belly-hold capacity is critical for transporting time-sensitive consignments such as

engineering components, pharmaceuticals, electronics and perishables, J Krishnan of Natesa Iyer LLC, said.

HIGHER FREIGHT

The loss of scheduled passenger flights has reduced available cargo capacity from Chennai, forcing shippers either to pay higher freight rates on the remaining airlines or switch to slower surface transport, he added.

With Chennai's aviation market becoming increasingly concentrated in favour of IndiGo, industry experts believe both passenger fares and air freight rates could remain elevated until SpiceJet restores services or other airlines add capacity on key domestic routes.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

3 JULY 2026

Air India slashes fuel surcharge for Australia, North America, Europe flights

Press Trust of India
New Delhi

Air India has cut fuel surcharge for flights to North America, Australia, Europe, and the UK as oil prices eased in recent weeks, according to sources.

The airline announced the fuel surcharge on April 7 amid a surge in oil and jet fuel prices due to the West Asia conflict. The higher

costs and airspace curbs had pushed up operational expenses for the airline.

Fuel surcharge for North America and Australia flights have been cut to \$200 from \$280 per ticket and that for Europe and the UK services have been reduced to \$125 from \$205, the sources said on Thursday.

FUEL SURCHARGES

The revised fuel surcharges are effective from July 1, the

sources said. Fuel surcharges for other international flights and domestic services of the airline remain unchanged. Fuel surcharges for North America, Australia, Europe, and the UK flights had come into force from April 10. On April 7, the Air India Group announced fuel surcharges ranging from \$24 to \$280 for international flights except certain routes, and ₹299 to ₹899 for domestic flights.

Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

Air India and Singapore Airlines subsidiary to set up MRO unit

AVIATION AMBITION. The partnership aims to strengthen India's position in the global aerospace ecosystem

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Air India and the engineering arm of Singapore Airlines have signed an MoU to set up a joint venture maintenance repair and overhaul unit (MRO).

While the two airlines collaborate in engineering and commercial aspects, the planned MRO would cater to third-party business.

At present, MROs owned by Adani, GMR and government-owned AI Engineering Services Limited (AIESL) provide third-party services to Indian and overseas carriers.

The MoU was signed on Friday by Air India Chief Ex-



OPERATIONAL EDGE. Air India hopes to tap SIAEC's technical expertise to bolster its established airline operations network

ecutive Officer Campbell Wilson and SIA Engineering Company (SIAEC) CEO Chin Yau Seng.

JOINT VENTURE

Air India hopes to tap SIAEC's technical expertise to bolster its established airline operations network and develop a world-class MRO

ing on its former subsidiary AIESL for its engineering support.

The government had earlier initiated steps to divest its stake in AIESL. Road shows were held for purpose of divestment but the proposal was put in abeyance. Air India and Singapore Airlines didn't comment on participating in the possible stake sale.

MRO ECOSYSTEM

"India is one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets, and the continued development of its MRO capabilities will be an important step in strengthening its position within the global aerospace ecosystem. Through this MOU, we look forward to exploring how SI-

AEC's technical expertise can support the progressive build-up of capabilities and capacity in India, alongside our ongoing partnership with Air India," said Chin Yau Seng.

RAPID GROWTH

"India's rapid aviation growth is driving the need for a stronger, more self-reliant MRO ecosystem within the country. As fleet sizes expand and operations scale up, developing local maintenance capacity will be important to support efficiency, resilience and long-term growth. Partnerships such as this can play a constructive role in enabling that broader direction and developing India as a global aviation hub," Wilson said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

Domestic travel boosts air passenger traffic recovery

T E Raja Simhan
Chennai

India's total air passenger traffic remained resilient in May recovering from two months of the West Asia war-induced slump.

Despite a decline in international travel, strong domestic demand helped in overall growth of over 4 per cent in total traffic.

Data from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) show that total passenger traffic across Indian airports rose 4.5 per cent year-on-year to 3.69 crore passengers in May 2026, compared with 3.53 crore a year earlier. Domestic travel expanded 7.5 per cent, while international

Bouncing back (domestic + international)

Rank	Airport	May 2025	May 2026	y-o-y change
1	Delhi	62,49,600	71,66,161	14.7
2	Mumbai	46,18,021	45,73,609	-1
3	Bengaluru	38,62,571	40,16,820	4
4	Hyderabad	27,91,094	25,49,700	-8.6
5	Chennai	20,41,235	19,04,259	-6.7

Source: Airports Authority of India

passenger traffic contracted 9.1 per cent.

STABILITY TRAVEL

The deterioration in overseas traffic coincided with escalating geopolitical tensions in West Asia, which disrupted flight schedules, forced airspace closures and re-routing, and led several airlines to curtail services to

destinations in the Gulf and Europe. International passenger traffic fell to 61.48 lakh passengers in May 2026 from 67.62 lakh in May 2025.

The decline marked the third consecutive month of contraction and followed a 16.1 per cent y-o-y drop in April and an 18.5 per cent y-o-y fall in March, indicating that the impact of the re-

Deterioration in overseas passenger traffic coincided with the escalating geopolitical tensions in West Asia for the past three months

gional conflict has persisted over several months.

Domestic traffic, however, provided stability to the aviation sector.

Passenger numbers increased to 3.08 crore in May from 2.86 crore a year earlier.

The AAI data indicated a widening gap among India's

busiest airports. Delhi strengthened its position as the country's largest airport with robust double-digit growth, while Mumbai retained the second spot despite a marginal decline in passenger traffic. Bengaluru consolidated its position as the third busiest airport with steady growth, whereas Hyderabad and Chennai — fourth and fifth respectively — recorded decline in traffic.

The trend marks a reversal from the beginning of the financial year when both domestic and international travel were expanding. In January, international passenger traffic grew 7.1 per cent, while domestic traffic increased 3.3 per cent. Growth moderated in Febru-

ary before turning sharply negative from March.

"The situation in the Gulf has significantly impacted travel and tourism. It began just as the peak summer holiday season was about to start. Initially, many travellers put their plans on hold, hoping conditions would normalise soon. However, as the situation prolonged, numerous people cancelled their long-awaited holidays," said Vinod Kumar, Manager Sales — South India, STIC Travel Group.

Fortunately, younger travellers continue to travel as usual, which is keeping us busy. We remain hopeful that conditions will steadily improve in the coming days, he said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

एअर इंडिया ने कुछ उड़ानों का फ्यूल सरचार्ज घटाया

नई दिल्ली। वैश्विक स्तर पर जेट ईंधन की कीमतों में नरमी के बीच एअर इंडिया ने कुछ अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों पर फ्यूल सरचार्ज घटा दिया है। यूरोप रूट पर सरचार्ज 205 डॉलर (19,510 रुपए) से 125 डॉलर (11,896 रु.) व उत्तर अमेरिका-ऑस्ट्रेलिया के लिए 280 डॉलर (26,648 रु.) से 200 डॉलर (19,034 रु.) कर दिया गया है। बता दें मार्च में जेट ईंधन महंगा होने से लागत बढ़ गई थी।

काली कमाई से खरीदे गए हवाई जहाज को ईडी ने किया नीलाम



ईडी द्वारा नीलाम किया गया हाकर 88ए विमान • एएनआइ

• नीलामी से
मिले तीन
करोड़ रुपये
को पीड़ितों
को वापस
लौटाया
जाएगा

जगरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: देश में पहली बार काली कमाई से खरीदे गए हवाई जहाज (हाकर800ए) को ईडी ने नीलाम किया है। नीलामी से मिले तीन करोड़ रुपये को पीड़ितों को वापस किया जाएगा।

हवाई जहाज को पिछले साल सात मार्च को ईडी ने हैदराबाद के राजीव गांधी इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर जब्त किया था। जहाज फालकान ग्रुप और कैपिटल प्रोटेक्शन फॉर्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के सीएमडी अमरदीप कुमार के पास था, जिसपर हजारों निवेशकों से पॉजी स्क्रीम के नाम पर 792 करोड़ रुपये ठगने का आरोप है। ईडी के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि

कैपिटल प्रोटेक्शन फॉर्स के खिलाफ लोगों के साथ धोखाधड़ी के आरोप में हैदराबाद पुलिस में दर्ज तीन एफआइआर के आधार पर एजेंसी ने मनी लॉड्रिंग रोकथाम कानून (पीएमएलए) के कार्रवाई शुरू की। पांच महीने बाद यानी पिछले साल अगस्त में पीएमएलए एडजुकेटिंग अथारिटी ने ईडी की कार्रवाई की सही ठहराते हुए हवाई जहाज की जब्ती पर मुहर लगा दी। इसके बाद ईडी ने एडजुकेटिंग अथारिटी से हवाई जहाज को नीलाम करने की अनुमति मांगी, जो नवंबर में मिल गई। एक जुलाई को नीलामी की प्रक्रिया पूरी हुई व जहाज को तीन करोड़ रुपये में बेच दिया गया।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

एअर इंडिया-एसआइए की भारत में संयुक्त उद्यम लगाने की तैयारी

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : एअर इंडिया और एसआइए इंजीनियरिंग कंपनी भारत में मेंटेनेंस, रिपेयर और ओवरहाल (एमआरओ) के लिए एक संयुक्त उद्यम स्थापित करने की तैयारी में है। दोनों अपने सहयोग को मजबूत करना चाहते हैं। एसआइए इंजीनियरिंग कंपनी सिंगापुर एयरलाइंस ग्रुप का हिस्सा है। इस ग्रुप के पास एअर इंडिया में 25.1 प्रतिशत की हिस्सेदारी है।

एअर इंडिया और एसआइए इंजीनियरिंग कंपनी ने शुक्रवार को एमआरओ के क्षेत्र में सहयोग की संभावना तलाशने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इससे भारत को एक वैश्विक विमानन एमआरओ केंद्र के रूप में विकसित करने में मदद मिलेगी।

एयरलाइन पहले से ही अपने विमानों के बढ़ते बड़े और नेटवर्क विस्तार के लिए रखरखाव और अन्य जरूरतों को मजबूत करने के लिए एसआइए इंजीनियरिंग कंपनी के साथ सहयोग कर रही है।

UDAN Flights Discontinued on 50% of Routes Launched So Far

Just 336 of 669 UDAN routes remain active despite ₹9,500 cr in public spending

Arindam Majumder

New Delhi: India's ambitious regional air connectivity scheme is facing a daunting challenge, with commercial flights discontinued on nearly half the routes launched so far, even as the government unveils the second phase of the programme Saturday. This underscores the formidable task of connecting remote and unviable routes despite a significant push by the government.

Of the 669 routes made operational since the Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme started in 2017, commercial flights are currently operational on only 336, according to data reviewed by ET.

The government has spent nearly ₹4,700 crore subsidising airlines in return for discounted airfares to stimulate demand, and another ₹4,800 crore building infrastructure at remote airports.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil the second phase of UDAN, under which the government has significantly increased the outlay to ₹28,840 crore. Of this, ₹10,000 crore will go towards subsidies, with the subsidy period extended to five years from three.

Airline and helicopter operators are pushing for easier access to metro airports and relaxed rules at smaller airfields in the sche-



me's second phase.

Many smaller carriers that initially operated these routes have since gone bankrupt or curtailed operations. Others turned unviable once the three-year subsidy period ended.

Two airports in Karnataka — Bidar and Kalaburagi — which had daily flights operated by regional carrier Star Air, fell off the network once the three-year subsidy was exhausted.

"Major gateway airports like Delhi and Mumbai should support regional carriers for the scheme to have full impact," said Manoj Chacko, MD and CEO at Fly91, which operates a six-aircraft fleet connecting UDAN airports such as Sindhu-durg and Jalgaon. "To develop a viable network, it is important for an airline of my size to have connectivity with a major airport."

Executives at other regional carriers told ET that timely airport preparedness remains a major hurdle to starting regional flights. Many remote airstrips identified for development into public-use airports haven't been upgraded

due to regulatory bottlenecks and high compliance costs.

"For smaller airlines, who are substantial players in remote connectivity, they cannot start flights despite receiving permission due to airport unreadiness," said the CEO of an airline operating 20-seater planes. "It becomes a big financial burden".

Regional carriers also face challenges in securing planes as aircraft leasing companies remain cautious. Vishokh Mansingh, founder-CEO at Vman Aero Services, which has advised many airline start-ups, said states should provide aircraft to smaller operators on lease to help them start operations.

Government officials said the revamped scheme's structure addresses these problems. "The subsidy period has been extended from three to five years to give more support to airlines," an official said.

An additional ₹2,577 crore has been set aside for airport maintenance in early years, when passenger traffic is too thin for airports to be self-sustaining.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

3 JULY 2026

AI Exp flies to W Asia again

Air India Express on Thursday restored services to all destinations across its West Asia network, including flights to Oman and Kuwait. The airline now operates around 780 weekly flights, connecting 18 Indian cities directly with destinations across West Asia.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

3 JULY 2026

Air India cuts fuel surcharges for some international flights

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Air India has reduced fuel surcharges for flights to North America, Australia, Europe and the UK, reversing part of the hike it had announced in April following the West Asia conflict, as oil prices have eased in recent weeks, according to airline officials.

The revised fuel surcharges came into effect on July 1.

As per them, the fuel surcharges for flights to North America and Australia have been reduced to \$200 per ticket from \$280, while those for services to Europe and the UK have been cut to \$125 from \$205, an official said on Thursday.

Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) accounts for around 40% of an airline's total operating costs.

On April 7, the Air India Group had announced fuel surcharges ranging from \$24 to \$280 for international flights, except on certain routes, and from ₹299 to ₹899 for domestic flights.

The airline had introduced the surcharge following a spike in jet fuel prices triggered by the West Asia conflict. Higher fuel costs and airspace restrictions had increased its operating expenses.

Speaking on the impact, Ajay Prakash, former president of Travel Agents Federation of India (TAFI), said, "After the West Asia crisis, people have been travelling

when they needed to, so I don't think it made a huge difference to traffic. However, people weren't really looking to travel unless they absolutely had to or had booked in advance." "...whatever the reason, as far as we are concerned, it's a welcome move because airlines are very quick to increase fuel surcharges but very slow to reduce..."

An industry insider, requesting anonymity, said, "I would have expected that if you are reducing or decreasing the fuel surcharge, it should have happened across the routes... What about the Far East? What about the Middle East? You are using fuel to fly there as well. So I cannot understand the logic..."

Airlines shun ₹10K cr aviation fuel subsidy as fuel prices fall

The scheme was voluntary, and airlines were to sign agreements with oil marketing cos to avail of the capped price of about Rs 115 per litre

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The Rs 10,000-crore jet fuel price stabilisation programme has failed to take off, with no airline signing up for the scheme as a decline in international oil prices eroded its appeal, sources said.

The Union Cabinet last month approved a one-time Rs 10,000-crore scheme to compensate state-owned fuel retailers for selling aviation turbine fuel (ATF) to airlines at capped prices for upto three years, aiming to shield carriers from surging fuel costs triggered by the West Asia crisis.

The scheme was voluntary, and airlines were to sign agreements with oil marketing companies to avail of the capped price of about Rs 115 per litre. However, no airline has signed up for the scheme so far, sources said.

This could possibly be because international oil prices started to fall around mid-June, making the capped price unattractive. On July 1, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices in fact dropped to Rs 110 per litre from Rs 115 rate that was announced on June 9.

Under the voluntary scheme, participating airlines were to pay a fixed free-on-board (FOB) benchmark price of Rs 86.32 per litre, plus airport charges, oil company margins and applicable taxes, resulting in an effective selling price of Rs 115 per litre in Delhi, Rs 114.5 in Mumbai and Rs 139 in Chen-



On July 1, ATF prices in fact dropped to Rs 110/litre from Rs 115 rate that was announced on June 9. Market-linked ATF prices were around Rs 142/litre when the scheme was announced on June 3

nai. Airlines that do not opt for the scheme are to pay market-linked prices.

Sources said market-linked ATF prices were around Rs 142 per litre when the scheme was announced on June 3. However, prices have since softened following an interim peace deal between the US and Iran, easing concerns over potential supply disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz, a key global oil shipping route.

The scheme was announced to give airlines clarity on fuel prices. Those opting into the price stabilisation scheme were to continue to receive ATF at Rs 115 per litre for upto three years, insulated from global

benchmark fluctuations. While non-participating carriers will benefit from price declines, they also face higher costs when international rates rise.

Sources said the scheme was completely voluntary, and airlines had to make a call if they wanted to participate in it.

With no airlines signing up, the scheme has not technically been put in motion, they said.

When the government announced the capped ATF price of Rs 115 per litre, the prevailing retail price in Delhi was about Rs 105 per litre, a level that had remained unchanged since April after only a partial pass-through of higher global fuel costs triggered by

Highlights

- » The scheme was announced to give airlines clarity on fuel prices
- » Those opting into the price stabilisation scheme were to continue to receive ATF at Rs 115 per litre for upto three years, insulated from global benchmark fluctuations
- » ATF typically accounts for 40% of airline operating expenses & can rise to around 60 per cent during period of sharp volatility

provide an interest-free advance to oil marketing companies to cover the difference. When prices fell, the differential was to be recovered from the companies and returned to the Consolidated Fund of India.

ATF typically accounts for about 40 per cent of airline operating expenses and can rise to as much as 60 per cent during periods of sharp volatility.

Sources said international jet fuel prices had climbed to as high as Rs 142 per litre in May from pre-war rates of Rs 60.50 per litre, raising concerns over airline operating costs and potential fare increases.

millenniumpost CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Joshnara Bibi alias Jyotna W/O Azad Ali, D/O Md Tafizuddin Mia R/o N0186, Uttarpara, Daulatpur, PO: Bansdol Daulatpur, Dist: Malda, West Bengal - 732125, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Joshnara Khatun.

I, Manoj Ravat S/O Mahendra Ravat, R/o 308/A, Rabindra Sarani, VTC; Beadon Street, PO: Beadon Street, Sub District: Kolkata, District: Kolkata, State: West Bengal - 700006, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Manoj Singh.

I, Sona Mudi alias Sanatan Mudi S/O Badal Mudi, R/o

the outbreak of the West Asia conflict in late February. The price freeze resulted in losses for state-owned oil marketing companies on aviation turbine fuel, adding to under-recoveries on petrol, diesel and LPG, sources said.

To address these losses, the Union Cabinet had approved a Rs 10,000-crore price stabilisation scheme aimed at capping ATF prices and shielding airlines from volatility linked to geopolitical tensions, while also supporting the financial health of state-owned oil companies.

Under the scheme, whenever global benchmark prices rose above the base rate of Rs 86.32, the government was to



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

3 JULY 2026

AI Express resumes all flights to West Asia



NEW DELHI: Air India Express on Thursday said it has restored services to all destinations in the West Asia network, with flights set to commence to Oman and Kuwait.

The Tata Group-owned airline had suspended services to certain West Asia destinations in the wake of the conflict in the region.

Currently, the carrier operates around 780 weekly flights between India and West Asia connecting 18 Indian cities directly with the region.

With resumption of services to Salalah in Oman and Kuwait, connectivity to all destinations across the West Asia network has been restored, the airline said in a release.

"Flights on the Kozhikode-Salalah route will resume from 2 July. Services between Kozhikode and Kuwait will resume from 3 July, while flights between Bengaluru and Kuwait will begin from 4 July, with frequencies increasing in phases over the coming days," it said. #1

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

4 JULY 2026

Pvt jet firms seek changes in crew flying hours

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

PRIVATE jet operators across the country have requested the aviation regulator, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), to put in place flying hours for the cockpit crew in line with global standards.

The DGCA recently undertook a review meeting with the operators. The Business Aircraft Operators Association (BAOA), which has 115 private and non-scheduled operators as its members, took part in the meeting. "A review meeting was held with the BAOA in which they requested for separate Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) for their crew who fly their aircraft," a DGCA source told this newspaper.

For private jet crew operators, a maximum of 8 hours of total flying time is permitted per day, as per the DGCA's rules. A minimum of 10 consecutive hours of rest is mandatory within a 24-hour period while a maximum of two consecutive night duties and two night landings per week are permitted.

Extension of Diversion Time Operations (a set of regulations



which decide how far passenger aircraft can fly from an alternate aircraft) for flights to 120 minutes from the existing 90 minutes too was discussed, it is learnt. Group Captain R K Bali (retd), Managing Director of BAOA, said, "India's economic boom has ensured that we are among the fastest in the world when it comes to business aviation. We have around 500 such aircraft and the scope is huge in this sector. High Net-worth Individuals (HNI) in particular are keen on using them. Hence, we have asked DGCA for a rationalisation of FDTL norms and align them with international standards. We are

very keen this is being implemented with priority given to adequate safety norms."

Long-range aircraft, which would be deployed by corporate houses, to fly from Delhi or Mumbai to a city abroad will require a different operational schedule for pilots. "Hence, we requested for the rationalisation," he said.

A committee has been constituted by the regulator to examine the proposal mooted by private operators. "We have met with the members of the committee and spelt out our requirements," Bali added.

A top aviation official said there is enormous potential for

Minimum 10 consecutive hours of rest mandatory

For private jet crew operators, a maximum of 8 hours of total flying time is permitted per day, as per DGCA's rules. A minimum of 10 consecutive hours of rest is mandatory within a 24-hour period while a maximum of two consecutive night duties and two night landings per week are permitted. Extension of Diversion Time Operations was discussed.

helicopters and other private aircraft in the country. "Money is not a problem anymore in India which was the case in the past. However, what really ails this sector is the acute shortage of trained pilots. Most of the helicopters in the country are today operated by former or retired personnel from the defence sector. The need to train pilots on the smaller aircraft need to be undertaken on a war footing by the government to take advantage of the enormous potential this sector offers," he said. The country would require up to 3,000 helicopters in future, the official added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

3 JULY 2026

Air Express to resume Kuwait, Oman flights

New Delhi: Air India Express on Thursday said it has restored services to all destinations in the West Asia network, with flights set to commence to Oman and Kuwait. The Tata Group-owned airline had suspended services to certain West Asia destinations in the wake of the conflict in the region.

The carrier operates around 780 weekly flights between India and West Asia, connecting 18 Indian cities directly with the region. With the resumption of services to Salalah in Oman and Kuwait, connectivity to all destinations across the West Asia network has been restored, the airline said.

"Flights on the



SERVICES RESTORED

Kozhikode-Salalah route will resume from July 2. Services between Kozhikode and Kuwait will resume from July 3, while flights between Bengaluru and Kuwait will begin from July 4, with frequencies increasing in phases over the coming days," it said.

Fuel surcharge cut

Air India has cut fuel surcharges for flights to North America, Australia, Europe and the UK, according to sources. Fuel surcharge for North America and Australia flights has been cut to \$200 from \$280 per ticket, and that for Europe and the UK reduced to \$125 from \$205. **PTI**