

City Airport Ranked 63rd In Global Survey; Overcrowding, Lack Of Hygiene And Dismal Quality Of Dining Options Are Major Worries



UPGRADE FAST OR CHENNAI AIRPORT WILL MISS THE FLIGHT

PREPARE FOR TURBULENCE

Areas where Chennai airport fares better

- Ease of reaching airport
- Ease of finding check-in area
- Courtesy and helpfulness of security screening, passport check, dining area staff
- Ease of security screening procedure
- Shops
- Availability of seats at gate areas
- Short walking distance inside terminal
- Ease of making it to connection flights
- Availability of washrooms
- Entertainment and leisure options
- Charging stations
- Ambience
- Healthcare assistance

Areas where performance has dipped

- Signage regarding access to terminal
- Waiting time at check-in counters
- Waiting time at security screening
- Waiting time at border/passport control
- Value for money at restaurant/bars/cafes
- Availability of flight information (gate and time)
- Courtesy and helpfulness of information and maintenance staff
- Overall cleanliness



FIGHTING HEADWINDS: A senior airport official said they will soon add self-baggage drop facilities, increase the number of aerobridges, and improve signages

Best Indian airports by size

- Kannur airport | under 2 lakh passengers annually
- Chandigarh airport | 2 to 5 lakh passengers a year
- Rajiv Gandhi airport, Hyderabad | 1.5 to 2.5 crore passengers annually
- Indra Gandhi airport, New Delhi | More than 4 crore passengers annually
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj airport, Mumbai | More than 4 crore passengers annually

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Frequent flyers have been airing complaints time and again, not for nothing. If you still harbour any doubt, just have a look at Airports Council International's (ACI) Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey for 2024. The Chennai International Airport has been ranked 63rd globally, down from 56th in 2023.

ACI, a global trade association headquartered in Canada, represents airports worldwide. Over 700 airport operators managing nearly 2,000 airports across the globe are its members, and the association works to improve airport standards.

While some Indian airports, such as Kempegowda International Airport and Mangaluru International Airport, run by private establishments, have been recognized as the best airports globally for arrivals, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport in Mumbai and Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi have been recognized as the best among those handling more than 4 crore passengers a year.

Among the airports run by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), Goa came first with 62nd rank, followed by Chennai at 63 and Trichy at 64. "AAI should strive to achieve global standards at their airports. Chennai airport lags far behind other international airports and private airports within India," said V Vinith, a frequent flyer.

While the airport saw improve-

ment in overall rating from 4.90 to 4.91 on the survey's five-point scale in parameters such as cleanliness, security, check-in efficiency, way-finding, and the quality of retail and dining options; the value proposition of the airport's dining options proved to be a point of dissatisfaction, registering the lowest score of 4.64. There was also a decline in the score for overall cleanliness, falling from 4.90 in 2023 to 4.71 in 2024.

Passengers pointed out how toilets in the airports were often filthy. "The lounge is overcrowded, sleeping pods are inaccessible, and all facilities in arrivals are awfully inadequate," said Giridhar Gorur, who works for Danish firm Grundfos.

Chennai airport officials said they were working to make improvements. "The new integrated terminal building last year gave the airport a positive outlook. When operations begin in phase 2 of the international terminal, we hope to offer better facilities. We will soon add self-baggage drop facilities, increase the number of aerobridges, and improve signages," said a senior official.

Two other complaints often raised are about the pickup point for arriving passengers and Wi-Fi service, he said. "We have asked telecom to install kiosks inside the terminals where foreigners can generate OTP without a local SIM card to access Wi-Fi. Shifting the cab pickup point to an easily accessible spot is also under active consideration since the construction of the plaza outside Terminal 1 is nearing completion," said an official.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

IGI Airport will soon get full-body scanners

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 4

Enhancing security with advanced technology, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) is set to commence trials of advanced full-body scanners at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) from May, following the latest guidelines from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

DIAL said the scanners are radiation-free and pri-

vacy-focused as they do not store data.

Four state-of-the-art scanners have been procured, with two installed at Terminal 1 (T1) and two at Terminal 3 (T3).

The IT interface for these machines is being finalised and upon the completion of the three-to-four-month trial, a BCAS-led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a standard operating procedure (SoP) for full-scale implementation,

DIAL officials said.

Officials said the scanners comply with all national and international safety standards, requiring minimal maintenance, and operate as per the BCAS guidelines.

All scan data is stored securely with access restricted to authorised agencies, ensuring both security and convenience for travellers.

"Utilising millimetre-wave technology operating between 70 to 80 GHz,

these scanners enhance security while ensuring passenger privacy. Unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they do not emit radiation, making them safe for all travellers, including pregnant women and individuals with medical implants. Importantly, these scanners are designed to expedite passenger movement, ensuring a more seamless airport experience with reduced wait time," officials added.

These advanced scanners detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives, significantly improving upon traditional metal detectors.

The technology, already in use at major international airports in the US, Canada, and Australia, enables rapid screening, with each scan taking just three seconds and a maximum throughput of 1,200 scans per hour, improving efficiency while minimising passenger inconvenience.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर मई से एडवांस फुल बॉडी स्कैन

नई दिल्ली। इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (आईजीआईए) पर मई से उन्नत फुल बॉडी स्कैनर का परीक्षण शुरू होगा। इसके लिए दिल्ली अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा लिमिटेड (डीआईएएल) और नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) ने नवीनतम दिशा निर्देश जारी किए हैं।

डीआईएएल के एक अधिकारी के अनुसार, चार अत्याधुनिक स्कैनर खरीदे गए हैं, जिनमें से दो टर्मिनल एक पर तथा दो टर्मिनल तीन पर लगाए गए हैं। साथ ही, डीआईएएल ने शुक्रवार को एक विज्ञप्ति में कहा कि इन मशीनों के लिए आईटी इंटरफेस को अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है।

डीआईएएल की ओर से जानकारी दी गई कि तीन से चार महीने का परीक्षण पूरा होने पर बीसीएस के नेतृत्व वाली समिति निष्कर्षों का मूल्यांकन करेगी और पूर्ण पैमाने पर कार्यान्वयन के लिए एक मानक संचालन प्रक्रिया स्थापित करेगी। 70 से 80 गीगाहर्ट्ज के बीच संचालित मिलीमीटर-वेव प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करते हुए ये स्कैनर यात्रियों की गोपनीयता सुनिश्चित करते हुए सुरक्षा बढ़ाते हैं। इसमें महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि कैमरों को यात्रियों की आवाजाही में तेजी लाने के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है, जिससे प्रतीक्षा समय कम होने के

दो बॉडी स्कैनर आईजीआई के टर्मिनल-एक पर और दो टर्मिनल-तीन पर लगाए गए

साथ हवाई अड्डे पर अधिक सहज अनुभव सुनिश्चित होता है। ये उन्नत स्कैनर विस्फोटकों सहित धातु और गैर-धातु दोनों प्रकार के खतरों का पता लगाते हैं, जो पारंपरिक धातु डिटेक्टरों की तुलना में बेहतर हैं। डीआईएएल ने कहा कि यह प्रौद्योगिकी अमेरिका, कनाडा और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डों पर पहले से ही प्रयोग में है, जिससे तीव्र स्क्रीनिंग संभव है, प्रत्येक स्कैन में केवल तीन सेकंड का समय लगता है और प्रति घंटे अधिकतम 1,200 स्कैन किए जा सकते हैं।

डीआईएएल के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी विदेह कुमार जयपुरियार ने कहा कि दिल्ली हवाई अड्डा सुरक्षा बढ़ाने तथा यात्रियों को निर्बाध अनुभव सुनिश्चित करने के लिए नवीनतम प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। बॉडी स्कैनर का आगमन सुरक्षा जांच में क्रांतिकारी परिवर्तन है, जिससे गोपनीयता से सम्झौता किए बिना तीव्र और अधिक प्रभावी जांच संभव हो सकेगी। सभी स्कैन डेटा को सुरक्षित रूप से संग्रहीत किया जाता है। संवाद



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Post recent guidelines, IGI Airport to conduct full-body scanner trials from May

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The national capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport will conduct advanced full-body scanner trials from May 2025.

The Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), which operates and maintains the IGI Airport, took this decision following the latest guidelines from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

"The introduction of these body scanners is a game-changer in security screening, allowing for faster

and more effective checks without compromising privacy," DIAL CEO Videh Kumar Jaipuria said in a statement.

"Our focus is on making air travel more convenient for passengers, and these trials, planned in accordance with government guidelines, will help us evaluate the system's efficiency before a full-scale rollout," he said.

IT INTERFACE

Accordingly, four state-of-the-art scanners have been procured, with two each installed at Terminal 1 (T1) and Terminal 3 (T3). The airport operator said that the IT

interface for these machines is being finalised, and upon completion of the three-to-four-month trial, a BCAS-led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a 'Standard Operating Procedure' (SoP) for full-scale implementation.

SAFE FOR PASSENGERS

As per DIAL, these scanners use millimetre-wave technology operating between 70 to 80 GHz, which enhances security while ensuring passenger privacy.

Noting that unlike conventional 'X-ray' scanners, DIAL pointed out that these scanners do not emit radi-

ation, making them safe for all travellers, including pregnant women and individuals with medical implants.

Importantly, these scanners are designed to expedite passenger movement, ensuring a more seamless airport experience with reduced wait times.

These advanced scanners, DIAL said, detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, significantly improving upon traditional metal detectors.

The technology is already in use at major international airports in the US, Canada, and Australia, and enables rapid screening.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Bengaluru Airport crosses 41 m-mark in passenger handling

Our Bureau
Bengaluru

Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, has recorded strong growth in both passenger and cargo traffic for FY25, crossing the 41 million passenger milestone and handling over 500,000 tonnes of cargo. Passenger traffic rose 11.6 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y), with international travel surging 25 per cent, driven by IndiGo's expanding global network and increased frequencies by foreign carriers like Cathay Pacific, KLM, and Qantas.

Domestic passenger traffic grew 10 per cent, to 36.05 million, while international passenger numbers surged to 5.83 million, reflecting a 25 per cent on-year increase. Satyaki Raghunath, Chief Operating Officer, Bangalore International Airport Limited, stated, "BLR Airport is very well placed to serve as the preferred gateway to South and Central India, and our investment in expanding airside, landside, and

terminal capacity positions us perfectly for growth over the next few years. With an investment of over ₹17,000 crore planned over the next five years, we are well-prepared to support the rising demands of passenger and cargo traffic in the region."

The airport posted a 14 per cent increase in cargo handling year-on-year at 500,000 tonnes mark for the first time, handling a total of 502,480 tonnes of cargo in FY24-25.

दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर मई से होगा स्कैनर परीक्षण

दिल्ली इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) सुरक्षा जांच में यात्रियों को सुविधा देने के लिए मई से राष्ट्रीय राजधानी नई दिल्ली के हवाई अड्डे पर फुल बॉडी स्कैनर का परीक्षण शुरू करेगा।

इसके लिए चार स्कैनर खरीदे गए हैं, जिनमें से दो टर्मिनल एक (टी1) और एक-एक स्कैनर टर्मिनल दो (टी2) और टर्मिनल तीन (टी3) पर लगाया गया है। अमेरिका, कनाडा और ऑस्ट्रेलिया जैसे देशों के प्रमुख हवाई अड्डों पर पहले से तैनात इस प्रौद्योगिकी के जरिये तुरंत स्क्रीनिंग हो जाती है और इसमें दो से तीन सेकंड का ही वक्त लगता है। यह प्रणाली हर घंटे 1,200 स्कैन करने में सक्षम है।

डायल ने बताया कि तीन से चार महीने में पूरी होने वाली परीक्षण अवधि के बाद नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो की एक समिति नतीजों का विश्लेषण करेगी और मानक संचालन प्रक्रिया तैयार करेगी। बीएस



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Delhi airport to begin trials of full-body scanners next month

DEEPAK PATEL

New Delhi, 4 April

Delhi airport will begin trials of advanced full-body scanners in May for quicker movement of passengers at the security screening stage, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said on Friday. The airport operator said scanners will generate a standardised 2D image on a preset human avatar so that no personal images are stored in the system.

All scanned data will be securely stored with access restricted to authorised agencies, it noted.

Four scanners have been procured, with two installed at Terminal 1 and the remaining two at Terminal 3.

Already deployed at major airports in the US, Canada, and Australia, this technology allows rapid screening, with each scan taking only three seconds. The system is capable of handling up to 1,200 scans per hour.

The IT interface for these machines is being finalised. Once the trial period is complete, a committee led by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) will analyse the results and establish stan-

dard operating procedures for full-scale implementation, DIAL said.

Following BCAS's latest directives, the trials will begin next month. The advanced scanners can detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives, providing a significant upgrade over conventional metal detectors.

DIAL said the scanners come equipped with four touch-screen monitors for real-time image analysis and passenger instructions. They are designed to accommodate individuals ranging from 3.3 feet to 6.7 feet in height.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर अगले महीने से एडवांस फुल बॉडी स्कैनर का ट्रायल

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली के आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर अगले महीने से एडवांस फुल बॉडी स्कैनर परीक्षण शुरू हो जाएगा। इसके तहत 4 अत्याधुनिक स्कैनर खरीदे गए हैं, जिनमें से दो टर्मिनल-1 (टी1) और 2 टर्मिनल-3 (टी3) पर लगाए गए हैं। इसका उद्देश्य बेहतर सुरक्षा और गोपनीयता के लिए यात्रियों की जांच में तेजी लाना और दक्षता बढ़ाना है। इन नई स्कैनर मशीनों के जरिए एक बार बॉडी

स्कैन करने में सिर्फ 3 सेकंड लगते हैं और ये हर घंटे अधिकतम 1,200 स्कैन कर सकती हैं। कई वर्षों के इंतजार के बाद इन स्कैनर मशीनों को नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) के नवीनतम दिशा-निर्देशों का पालन करते हुए लगाया जा रहा है।

3 से 4 महीने के परीक्षण के बाद बीसीएस की अगुवाई वाली एक समिति परिणामों का मूल्यांकन करेगी। ये स्कैनर 70 से 80 गीगाहर्ट्ज के बीच मिलीमीटर-वेव तकनीक का उपयोग

करते हैं, जो सुरक्षा को बढ़ाते हुए यात्रियों की गोपनीयता सुनिश्चित करते हैं।

ये स्कैनर विकिरण उत्सर्जित नहीं करते, जिससे ये गर्भवती महिलाओं और चिकित्सा प्रत्यारोपण वाले व्यक्तियों सहित सभी यात्रियों के लिए सुरक्षित हैं। ये उन्नत स्कैनर धातु और गैर-धातु दोनों खतरों का पता लगाते हैं और पारंपरिक मेटल डिटेक्टर की तुलना में काफी बेहतर है। अमेरिका, कनाडा और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर यह तकनीक पहले से उपयोग में लाई जा रही है।

एयरपोर्ट पर लग रहे फुल बाडी स्कैनर, तीन सेकेंड में होगी जांच

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली : देश के सबसे बड़े एयरपोर्ट आइजीआई पर सुरक्षा जांच को तेज और प्रभावी बनाने के लिए अत्याधुनिक फुल बाडी स्कैनर लगाए जा रहे हैं। यह प्रक्रिया ब्यूरो आफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी के उन दिशानिर्देशों के आधार पर शुरू किया गया है, जिसका उद्देश्य यात्रियों के लिए सुरक्षा जांच की प्रक्रिया को सुगम बनाना और इसमें लगने वाले समय की बचत करना है। अमेरिका, कनाडा और आस्ट्रेलिया के प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर पहले से ही इस्तेमाल की जा रही यह तकनीक तेजी से जांच करने में सक्षम बनाती है। प्रत्येक स्कैन में केवल तीन सेकेंड लगते हैं और प्रति घंटे 1,200 स्कैन की अधिकतम क्षमता होती है। एयरपोर्ट संचालन से जुड़ी एजेंसी डायल के अनुसार शुरुआती चरण में मशीन का ट्रायल शुरू किया जा रहा है। इसके लिए टर्मिनल 1 व 3 के लिए चार अत्याधुनिक स्कैनर खरीदे गए हैं।

डायल के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी विदेह कुमार जयपुरियार का कहना है कि आइजीआई एयरपोर्ट नवीनतम तकनीक को अपनाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है, ताकि सुरक्षा बढ़ाई जा सके और यात्रियों को सहज अनुभव मिले। फुल बाडी स्कैनर सुरक्षा जांच की प्रक्रिया को तेज करने के साथ साथ प्रभावी बनाएंगे।

ट्रायल करीब तीन से चार महीने तक चलेगा : उन्होंने बताया कि मई में शुरू होने वाला ट्रायल करीब तीन से चार महीने तक चलेगा। इसके बाद ब्यूरो आफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी की अगुवाई में एक समिति परिणामों का मूल्यांकन करेगी और पूर्ण कार्यान्वयन के लिए मानक



एयरपोर्ट पर लगा फुल बाडी स्कैनर सौजन्य • डायल

- मई में तीन से चार महीने के लिए शुरू होगा ट्रायल, नतीजे पर तैयार होगी एसओपी
- ब्यूरो आफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी के दिशानिर्देश पर लगाए जा रहे बाडी स्कैनर

संचालन प्रक्रिया (एसओपी) तैयार करेगी।

व्यक्तिगत छवि नहीं होगी संग्रहित : पारंपरिक एक्सरे स्कैनर के विपरीत, फुल बाडी स्कैनर विकिरण उत्सर्जित नहीं करते हैं, जिससे वे गर्भवती महिलाओं और चिकित्सा प्रत्यारोपण वाले व्यक्तियों सहित सभी यात्रियों के लिए सुरक्षित हो जाते हैं। यह स्कैनर विस्फोटकों सहित धातु और गैर-धातु दोनों तरह के खतरों का पता लगा लेगा, जो पारंपरिक मेटल डिटेक्टरों में काफी सुधार करते हैं। इस मशीन में गोपनीयता संबंधी चिंताओं को दूर करते हुए कोई व्यक्तिगत छवि संग्रहीत नहीं की जाती है। वर्ष 2023 में हैदराबाद, मुंबई, बेंगलुरु एयरपोर्ट पर सीआईएसएफ द्वारा फुल बाडी स्कैनर की टेस्टिंग की गई थी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

■ DIAL to Begin Body Scanner Trials in May



NEW DELHI Delhi airport will start trials of full body scanners in May, with the airport operator DIAL

saying that the scanners will generate a standardised 2D image on a preset human avatar so that no personal images are stored in the system. Four scanners have been procured, with two installed at Terminal 1 (T1) and two at Terminal 3 (T3). These scanners are expected to reduce the waiting time for passengers at the airport.

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

तैयारी | हवाईअड्डे पर अगले माह से फुल बॉडी स्कैनर का ट्रॉयल, मैटेलिक, नॉन मैटेलिक एवं विस्फोटक की पहचान कर भेजेगा अलर्ट

एयरपोर्ट पर तीन सेकंड में हो जाएगी यात्रियों की जांच

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों की सुरक्षा जांच के लिए फुल बॉडी स्कैनर लगाने की तैयारी है। अगले माह से इसका ट्रॉयल होगा और तीन से चार महीने में इसे लागू कर दिया जाएगा।

यह स्कैनर मैटेलिक, नॉन मैटेलिक और विस्फोटक की पहचान कर तुरंत अलर्ट भेजेगा। मशीन की मदद से एक यात्री की स्कैनिंग तीन सेकंड में, जबकि 1200 यात्रियों की जांच एक घंटे में करना संभव होगा। इस व्यवस्था से एयरपोर्ट की सुरक्षा जहां और मजबूत होगी। वहीं, यात्रियों का समय भी बचेगा। दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) के



1200

यात्रियों की जांच एक घंटे में हो सकेगी, तीन महीने में प्रभावी कर दी जाएगी सेवा

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों की जांच के लिए लगाए गए बॉडी स्कैनर।

मशीन से किसी तरह के रेडिएशन का खतरा नहीं

मिलीमीटर वेव तकनीक से लैस इन मशीनों से यात्रियों की जांच करने के दौरान उनकी निजता का ख्याल रखा जाएगा। इन मशीनों से किसी प्रकार का रेडिएशन नहीं निकलेगा और यह गर्भवती महिलाओं एवं मेडिकल इम्प्लांट लगे हुए मरीजों के लिए भी सुरक्षित होगी।



दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर हमेशा नई तकनीक का प्रयोग कर यात्रियों को सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई जाती है। सुरक्षा जांच में यह तकनीक एक बड़ा बदलाव लाएगी। स्कैनर का पहले ट्रॉयल किया जाएगा। बाद में इसे स्थायी कर देंगे।

-विदेह कुमार जयपुरियार, सीईओ, डायल

अनुसार हवाईअड्डे पर न्यूरो ऑफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्वोरिटी की ओर से तब दिशा-निर्देशों का पालन करते हुए फुल बॉडी स्कैनर लगाए जा रहे हैं। चार अत्याधुनिक स्कैनर खरीदे

गए हैं। दो स्कैनर टर्मिनल-एक और दो को टर्मिनल-3 पर लगाया गया है। दोनों ही टर्मिनल पर अगले माह से इसका ट्रॉयल रन शुरू होगा। तीन से चार माह तक ट्रॉयल के बाद न्यूरो ऑफ

सिविल एविएशन की समिति इसके नतीजों का आकलन करेगी। इसके बाद दिशा-निर्देश बनाए जाएंगे और सुरक्षा जांच में इस मशीन का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Airport to trial body scanners for four months

Jasjeev Gandhiok

jasjeev.gandhiok@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Full-body scanner trials will commence at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in May, with two each to be deployed at Terminal 1 (T-1) and T-3, airport operator Delhi International Airport Limited said on Friday.

The trial will last for three to four months, officials said.

"The IT interface for these machines is being finalised, and upon completion of the three-to-four-month trial, a Bureau of Civil Aviation (BCAS) led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for full-scale implementation," a DIAL spokesperson said on Friday.

DIAL said the scanners will use millimetre-wave technology and are aimed at enhancing security, while simultaneously ensuring passenger privacy.

"Unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they do not emit radiation, making them safe for all travellers, including pregnant women and individuals with medical implants. Importantly, they are designed to expedite passenger movement, ensuring a more seamless airport experience with reduced wait times," the spokesperson said.

The scanner will be able to detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives, significantly improving upon traditional metal detectors, the spokesperson said.

The technology is already in use at major international airports in the US, Canada and Australia. "With each scan taking

FAST PROCESSING

- Two scanners each to be trialled at T1 and T3
- After trials, a BCAS-led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a SoP for full-scale implementation
- Unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they do not emit radiation, making them safe for all travellers, including pregnant women and individuals with medical implants

just three seconds and a maximum throughput of 1,200 scans per hour, it can dramatically improve efficiency while minimising passenger inconvenience," the spokesperson said.

Body scanners were trialled at the Delhi airport in the past too, but there were flaws, with equipment unable to detect coins, blades, 9mm bullets and items placed five centimetres below the ankle or above the chin area. In one of the previous trials, equipment was unable to detect items if the passenger was wearing a saree.

Videh Kumar Jaipuria, CEO of DIAL, said the body scanners could be a "game changer" for security screening, by allowing for swifter checks without compromising privacy. "Our focus is on making air travel more convenient for passengers, and these trials, planned in accordance with government guidelines, will help us evaluate the system's efficiency before a full-scale roll-out," he said.

Public transport linkages can revolutionise airports

Readers might be interested in an interesting piece that appeared in *The Economist* ([tinyurl.com/yckh2tzc](https://www.economist.com/india/2025/04/02/indias-airports-and-their-functionality-or-the-lack-of-it)) on India's airports and their functionality or the lack of it.

But I would like to emphasise one of the most overlooked aspects, a feature in which they lag behind almost all their global peers — seamless connectivity to and from the facility through public transport. The world over, metros, bus and several other forms of public mass transport are the only modes used by the ultra-rich, rich and the middle-class: How often does one see passengers jumping into a taxi in Paris or Amsterdam to reach the city centre from the airport? The convenience of the bus, the subway, trams and the metro beats the comfort of the taxi by a mile.

The advantages, including the reduction in emission footprint, need no elaboration. At Delhi's T3, to cite one instance, finding a parking slot for a cab or a private vehicle at peak hours is almost impossible due to clogged lanes. If the airport didn't have metro connectivity, one can only imagine how much worse things would have been.

In Goa, getting an affordable taxi remains a challenge. This sounds absurd for a state whose mainstay is tourism but in India, absurdities lurk at every corner. Taxis to and fro from the two airports in the state — Dabolim in the South and MOPA in the North — cost double of what they do in most other Indian cities.

So, you can imagine my delight when a young, budget-conscious friend who lives in Panjim told me he took the bus from MOPA and paid ₹250 for the hassle-free ride. Last mile connectivity, of course, is not a strength of almost all Indian cities, but he managed to get an auto and reached home for ₹300 as opposed to ₹1,600 for a taxi.

Inspired, on a day-trip back from Mumbai with just hand-luggage, I located the Kadamba Transport Corporation Limited (KTCL) bus counter at the airport and found that I had just missed the last bus and the next one was a wait of one hour at least. So, I took a Goa Miles (a PPP app by the Goa Tourism Development Corporation and a private vendor) taxi.

Upon further enquiry, I discovered that



The advantages, including emission reduction, need no elaboration. HT PHOTO

KTCL started operations from MOPA airport to four locations in Goa with six 49-seater electric buses, with fares ranging from ₹200 to ₹500. The buses have hourly departures and can be boarded from four points in Goa, to reach the airport as well. The fact that some fliers can and do avoid the prohibitive cost of a taxi and lower the loads on Goa's crowded and pot-holed inner roads sounds like progress to me.

That's why I was happy to learn of the two agreements between Noida International Airport (at Jewar in Greater Noida) and the Uttarakhand and Haryana roadways that will offer seamless AC bus services from the airport to four key destinations in Uttarakhand and nine in Haryana. Passengers will be able to take these buses directly from NIA to their destinations, which itself is a huge positive.

It remains to be seen how fliers make their way from central bus stations or city centres to their final destinations however, since last-mile connectivity remains a challenge in most Indian cities. I am not sure how many readers might have experienced this, but the central bus terminal in Dehradun is a nightmarish spot for almost anyone and at any time, but even more so for heavily jet-lagged fliers, who might undertake the road journey by bus.

So, how well the Jewar initiative works remains to be seen, but it's definitely a step in the right direction, one that every Indian airport needs to emulate.

In yet another first, Jewar airport has also entered into a partnership with Mahindra Logistics Mobility to offer a premium, all-electric taxi service for passengers. A fleet of 100% electric vehicles, offering passengers a pickup and drop-off facility located directly at the arrival and departure kerbs with minimal walking distances is proposed to be available 24x7. Competing with the Olas and Ubers, the service is expected to be available through every possible channel — a mobile app, website, call centre, airport kiosks and through the airline one flies. But, as experts in the sector point out, in a cost-conscious country like ours, the fares charged by the service will finally determine success or failure.

Either way, the very fact that airports are beginning to think beyond the building and looking at other aspects like functionality and connectivity is a sign of coming of age for the Indian airport sector.

What we now need to work on is behavioural change from those who can best benefit from these developments. Can the authorities, governments or private airport owners convince more fliers to jump on the public transport bandwagon? How long will it be before affluent Indian fliers begin to see the light?

Soon after he took charge, the Union aviation minister publicly proclaimed his intentions of bringing down fares so that the common man can fly, which sounded a bit ludicrous to me (free market principles). So, here's my submission: If the common man can fly, why can't the more privileged be encouraged to take buses and other forms of transport to and from the airport? Leading by example is the need of the hour.



Anjali Bhargava



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Delhi Airport gets full body scanners, trials set to begin from May

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, APRIL 4

DELHI'S INDIRA Gandhi International Airport will begin trials of full-body scanners starting May as part of an initiative to enhance security screening.

Four full-body scanners have been installed — two at Terminal 1 and two at Terminal 3.

The IT systems for these machines are being finalised, and a three-to-four-month trial period will follow. A committee led by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security will evaluate the results before determining a Standard Operating Procedure for broader implementation, said officials.

Vidh Kumar Jaipuria, CEO of Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), which operates the airport, said, "Delhi Airport remains committed to deploying the latest technology to enhance security while ensuring a seamless passenger experience. The introduction of these body scanners is a game-changer in security screening, allowing for faster and more effective checks without compromising privacy."

The technology is already in use at major international airports in the United States, Canada, and Australia.



Four full-body scanners have been installed. *Express*

How does it work?

■ Scanners use millimeter-wave technology operating between 70 to 80 GHz, DIAL said.

■ Unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they don't emit radiation, making them safe for all, including pregnant women and those with medical implants.

■ The technology is designed to improve security while expediting passenger movement.

■ Scanners can detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives.

■ Each scan takes 3 seconds (approx) with a maximum capacity of 1200 scans per hour.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Delhi airport to start trials of full body scanners

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Delhi airport will start trials of full body scanners in May, with the airport operator DIAL saying that the scanners will generate a standardised 2D image on a preset human avatar so that no personal images are stored in the system.

Four scanners have been procured, with two installed at Terminal 1 (T1) and two at Terminal 3 (T3). These scanners are expected to reduce the waiting time for passengers at the airport.

"The IT interface for these machines is being finalised, and upon completion of the three-to-four-month trial, a BCAS-led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for full-scale implementation," Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) said in a release on Friday.

The scanners will be using millimeter-wave technology operating between 70 to 80 GHz. DIAL said that unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they do not emit radiation, making them safe for all travellers, including pregnant women and indi-

viduals with medical implants.

The trials of the scanners will start in May following the latest guidelines from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

"These advanced scanners detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives, significantly improving upon traditional metal detectors.

"The technology, already in use at major international airports in the US, Canada, and Australia, enables rapid screening, with each scan taking just three seconds and a maximum throughput of 1,200 scans per hour," the release said.

According to DIAL, the scanners generate a standardised 2D image on a preset human avatar, ensuring no personal images are stored.

They will be equipped with four touch screen monitors for image evaluation and passenger guidance and can scan individuals between 3.3 feet to 6.7 feet in height.

"All scan data is stored securely with access restricted to authorised agencies, ensuring both security and convenience for travellers," the release said.

हवाई अड्डे पर कला की उड़ान



अधिकतर लोगों की तरह मैं भी आमतौर पर एयरपोर्ट समय से पहले पहुंच जाता हूँ। लाउज में अपना जरूरी काम निपटाता हूँ या फिर अखबार पढ़कर समय गुजारता हूँ। पिछले दिनों मुझे मुंबई से बनारस जाना था। फ्लाइट पकड़ने के लिए मुंबई टर्मिनल-2 पर पहुंचा। फ्लाइट में वक्त कम था सो बोर्डिंग गेट के पास ही समय बिताना ठीक था। टर्मिनल-2 काफी बड़ा है। यहां प्रस्थान के लिए आठ-दस नहीं, बल्कि पूरे 90 दरवाजे हैं। मेरे बोर्डिंग पास पर 87 नंबर गेट अंकित था। मैंने सोचा कि चलो, आज का मॉर्निंग वॉक यहीं पूरा हो जाएगा।

गेट नंबर- 87 के पास पहुंचा। चाय पीते-पीते प्रस्थान दरवाजों के दूसरी ओर दीवारों पर लगी कलाकृतियां बरबस अपनी ओर ध्यान खींचने लगीं। सतह पर पारदर्शी ग्लास फ्रेम के बीच फाइबर ग्लास

के आधार को समुद्री सतह का खड़बड़ आकार दिया गया था। उसके ऊपर बहुत सारे बड़े आकार के शंख, सोप वगैरह बड़ी तरतीब से सजाए हुए थे। एक मीटर के बाद इन्हें सीढ़ियों की तरह कतारबद्ध सजाया गया था। इन सबके ऊपर एक ग्लास के लेयर पर एक बड़े पारदर्शी बॉक्स में प्रागैतिहासिक अवशेष नुमा कुछ अद्भुत कलाकृतियां करीने से रखी हुई थीं।

मैं अपने मोबाइल से उनकी तस्वीरें खींचने लगा। लगा कि इसे बनाने वाले कलाकार ने कितना इंस्पिरेशनल काम किया है। आखिरी कलाकृति की तस्वीर लेते वक्त नेमप्लेट पर नजर पड़ी तो चौंक गया। लिखा था- विपुल कुमार। यह तो मेरा मित्र और सहपाठी विपुल है। वही विपुल, जो कॉलेज के दिनों में मेरी तरह दुबला-पतला सा था। हमारा चेहरा-मोहरा भी मिलता-जुलता था। इतनी समानता कि टीचर्स भी अक्सर कन्फ्यूज होते। हममें एक समानता और थी कि हम दोनों आर्थिक कठिनाइयों से जूझते हुए पढ़ाई कर रहे थे। थर्ड ईयर में विपुल ने मूर्तिकला ली और मैंने व्यवसायिक कला।

कॉलेज के कई वर्षों बाद विपुल से संपर्क हुआ। विपुल तब भी संचर्प कर रहा था। जयपुर के पास भैसलाना में जमीन खरीदकर उस पर स्टूडियो बनाने के लिए। हम सभी मित्रों से आर्थिक सहायता की दरकार थी। बहुत से सीनियर कलाकारों ने विपुल की मदद की, स्टूडियो के सपने को साकार करने में। आज भारत के सबसे खूबसूरत हवाई अड्डे पर उसकी कलाकृतियां और उसका नाम देख गौरवान्वित हो उठा। फोन किया, हालचाल के बाद बताया कि उसकी कलाकृतियां देखकर कितनी खुशी हुई। उसने बताया और दिख भी रहा था, कलाकृतियां जो मुंबई शहर की प्रतिकृति हैं। उनके ऊपर 7 मुखौटे थे, जिनके मुंह से पानी गिरना चाहिए था, सूखे थे। विपुल ने बताया कि पानी गिरता है तो सभी मुखौटों से जलतरंग की तरह संगीत भी आता है। विपुल की कला को इस ऊंचाई तक पहुंचा देख मन में खुद-ब-खुद सितार बज उठा।



खुद अपनी
आंख से

शीतल वर्मा

Advanced full-body scanners to up security at airport, trials from May

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Delhi airport will start trials of advanced full-body scanners in May, following the latest guidelines from Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). Out of four scanners, two have been installed at Terminal 1 and two at Terminal 3.

“The IT interface for these machines is being finalised, and upon completion of the three-to-four-month trial, a BCAS-led committee will evaluate the findings and establish a standard operating procedure for full-scale implementation,” said Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), the airport operator, in a statement.

Utilising millimetre-wave technology, these scanners enhance security while ensuring



FIRMING UP DEFENCE

passenger privacy. “Unlike conventional X-ray scanners, they do not emit radiation, making them safe for all travelers, including pregnant women and individuals with medical implants. Importantly, these scanners are designed to expedite passenger movement,

ensuring a more seamless airport experience with reduced wait times,” DIAL stated.

These advanced scanners detect both metallic and non-metallic threats, including explosives, significantly improving upon traditional metal detectors. “The technology, already in use at major international airports in the US, Canada, and Australia, enables rapid screening, with each scan taking just three seconds and a maximum throughput of 1,200 scans per hour,” said DIAL.

The scanners generate a standardised 2D image on a preset human avatar, ensuring no personal images are stored. They are equipped with four touchscreen monitors for image evaluation and can scan individuals between 3.3 feet and 6.7 feet in height.

Leopard filmed near Hirasar airport

Nimesh.Khakhariya
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Rajkot: A leopard was seen at night-time near the perimeter of Hirasar airport, situated off Rajkot-Ahmedabad highway. The sighting was captured on a video, which was subsequently circulated on social media platforms. About four months ago, a fox had been sighted, and porcupine droppings were found within the airport grounds.

The airport is a few kilometres off the Rajkot-Ahmedabad highway. The leopard was seen near the airport's boundary wall. The forest department said a vidi (reserved grassland) and a reserved forest exist near the new airport and wild animal movements are frequent.

Nikunj Parmar, deputy conservator of forests, Surendrangar, said, "We were informed about leopard movements on Wednesday afternoon. We deputed a team to scan the area and prepare for a capture operation if required. The team scanned the area on Wednesday night, but



A grab from the video

we did not find leopard pugmarks. We are prepared for a capture if required."

Forest department sources said the site of the Hirasar greenfield airport used to be a natural wildlife habitat, with regular leopard activity. Stray dogs around the airport provide a prey base.

Forest officials had earlier cautioned airport authorities about wildlife movement risks. They also recommended installing grilles on rainwater dispersal openings.

Sources said when a fox was earlier seen on the premises, the cage trap set by the forest department caught a dog instead.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

4 APRIL 2025

Leopard spotted inside Rajkot international airport compound

Rajkot: A leopard was spotted within Gujarat's Rajkot international airport compound on Tuesday night. The sighting was captured on camera and circulated on social media platforms.

Nikunj Parmar, deputy conservator of forests, Su-

rendranagar, said, "We deputed a team to scan the area and prepare for a capture operation, but we did not find leopard any pug marks."

Sources said the airport once used to be a natural wildlife habitat, with regular leopard activities. TNN



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

4 APRIL 2025

■ LS passes shipping bill ■ 'Will give fillip to maritime commerce'

Parl okays bill to boost aircraft leasing

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 3

Parliament on Thursday approved the Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025, which will help boost the aircraft leasing industry in India, which is one of the world's fastest-growing civil aviation markets. The bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on April 1.

The Lok Sabha cleared the bill by voice vote on Thursday.

The Lok Sabha also cleared a bill that seeks to regulate vessels engaged in trade within the Indian coastal waters. The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024, was passed in the Lower House by voice vote.

The Protection of



Union minister Nitin Gadkari during the Budget Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Thursday. — PTI

Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill seeks to give legal effect to the Cape-town Convention of 2001. Replying to the debate, civil aviation minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu said that the bill will make it easier and

cheaper for the airline to take aircraft on lease.

He said that this in turn will bring down airfares and help the civil aviation industry to expand. The minister said that the airline industry has ordered around 1,700 aircraft and

is only getting 5-10 aircraft per month.

Meanwhile, Union ports, shipping and waterways minister Sarbananda Sonowal said the coastal shipping bill has been brought to give a fillip to maritime commerce. He assured the House that the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024, is firmly grounded in the spirit of cooperative federalism and does not encroach upon the jurisdiction of any state.

In his reply to the debate on the bill, Mr Sonowal termed it a very important legislation providing for a much-needed exclusive, strategic and futuristic law for optimal utilisation of the nation's immense, untapped potential in coastal shipping.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Cathay Pacific places order for 100 new aircraft

Hyderabad: Cathay Pacific has placed 100 new generation aircraft as part of its HKD 100 billion (at current rate \$12.86 billion) investment plan for the next five years, a senior official of the Hong Kong flag carrier said. Rakesh Raicar, Cathay's Regional General Manager South Asia, Middle East, and Africa, said the airline expects 25 per cent growth in cargo this year from South India. PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Air India's \$400-m fleet retrofit to step up service quality, extend aircraft life

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

Tata Group-promoted Air India will be sending the first of its legacy wide body aircraft to the US for retrofit later in April, sources told *businessline*.

The entire fleet of legacy widebody aircraft comprising 27 B787s and 13 B777s will undergo retrofit in just over two years, contingent on a constant and steady supply of components, sources said.

Once completed, this retrofit will enhance the long haul service standards for Air India's passengers.

According to sources, The first of the Boeing B787 fleet, by which the seat vendors have been less impacted as compared to the B777s, will depart to Victorville, California, later this month where it will commence a full retrofit of new seats, in-flight entertainment systems and other interior fittings, as well as receive Air India's new livery, sources said.

Following its certification and return to service in September, the remainder of the fleet will undergo the same upgradation process, which is expected to be completed during 2027.

The expansive overhaul,



ADDED COMFORT. Once completed, this retrofit will enhance the long-haul service standards for Air India's passengers

sources said, will enhance quality of service and extend the life of the aircraft.

Each B787-8 aircraft is estimated to take 40 to 50 days for thorough overhaul, sources cited.

PHASED REVAMP

The entire retrofit exercise is being conducted under a \$400-million programme for a phased revamp of Air India's legacy fleet.

Besides, the airline has started the retrofit of its narrow body A320 aircraft. The first two of these 27 narrow-body legacy Airbus A320neo aircraft had joined the fleet in March, operating in the domestic as well as short-haul international destinations. All the A320neo aircraft will undergo complete retrofit to the new Air India standards by the third quarter of 2025.

As per sources, by the end of 2025, an additional 38 legacy narrow body aircraft will

be upgraded. Along with the 14 more new refitted narrow body aircraft that are already operating in the domestic network and the new aircraft acquired from Vistara, Air India full-service fleet of over 120 narrow body aircraft will have been upgraded to new standard.

Furthermore, two more retrofitted legacy A320neo aircraft will commence operations shortly.

Air India intends to install over 3,500 brand-new economy class seats, along with more than 600 premium economy seats and 200 business class seats for the narrow-body retrofit.

Additionally, the Tata Group-backed airline intends to press a "refreshed" wide body B777 into service in April.

The airline had initiated a 'heavy refresh' programme for its fleet of legacy Boeing 777 aircraft last month to provide an upgraded ultra-

long-haul flying experience for its passengers.

However, Air India's 11 leased Boeing 777s are not a part of this exercise.

businessline was the first to report that Air India planned a gradual "hard or heavy" refresh programme for its fleet of old, legacy B777 aircraft to ensure its passengers on the ultra-long-haul flights have an elevated experience in the cabin till the time the actual retrofit commences for the B777s.

"The first of 13 legacy Boeing B777 aircraft has just completed an interim "heavy refresh" that involved replacing interior panels, lavatories, seat upholstery, carpets, and curtains, with the remainder to follow in the coming months," sources said.

PROTRACTED DELAYS

"The decision to undertake this interim heavy refresh ahead of full retrofit was made due to protracted delays in the delivery of seats from the contracted vendors, arising from industry-wide supply chain constraints."

These 'refreshed' aircraft, sources added, will return to the hangar as new seats and in-flight entertainment systems become available for installation by late 2026-27.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

NCLAT dismisses plea against liquidation of Go First



The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Friday dismissed a batch of petitions filed against the liquidation of grounded carrier Go First. The NCLAT bench led by Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan upheld the earlier order passed by the Delhi bench of the NCLT, which had, on January 20, ordered for the airline's liquidation. Rejecting the petition by Busy Bee Airways, the NCLAT said it did not find any infirmity in the order of the adjudicating authority.

PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

Air India to use Apple AirTag baggage tracking

Air India has collaborated with Apple to integrate Apple's AirTag into its baggage tracking system and mobile application. This integration enables iPhone, iPad, and Mac users to monitor their luggage's location using the AirTag tracker and share the details with the airline, making it easier to locate lost baggage.

उत्तराखंड: पहली बार चारों धामों के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर सेवा, मंजूरी जल्द

मनमीत | देहरादून

उत्तराखंड में अब तक सिर्फ केदारनाथ धाम के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर सेवा थी, लेकिन इस बार चारों धामों के लिए इसे शुरू करने की तैयारी है। यमुनोत्री-गंगोत्री धाम में हेलीपैड बन गए हैं। जबकि बद्रीनाथ में पहले से है। तीनों नए हेलीपैड का सर्वे और सुरक्षा जांच हो चुकी है। शुक्रवार को हई श्री बद्रीनाथ-केदारनाथ

मंदिर समिति और हेली शटल सेवा कंपनियों की बैठक में इसकी जानकारी दी गई। इसका प्रस्ताव उत्तराखंड नागरिक उड्डयन विकास प्राधिकरण (यूकाडा) को भेजा गया है, जो एक-दो दिन में इस पर मुहर लगा देगा। इसके बाद श्रद्धालु चारों धामों के लिए हेली सर्विस बुक कर सकेंगे। फिलहाल केदारनाथ धाम के लिए हेली सेवा की बुकिंग 8 अप्रैल को दोपहर 12 बजे से खल रही है।



फाटा में उड़ान लिए तैयार हेलीकॉप्टर।

यहां दो मई को कपाट खुलने हैं। इसी दिन से गप्तकाशी, सिरसी और

फाटा से केदारनाथ धाम के लिए हेली सेवा शुरू हो जाएगी। यूकाडा ने आईआरसीटीसी को यात्रा पंजीकरण का डेटा भेज दिया है। इस बार किराया करीब 5 फीसदी तक बढ़ गया है। ऐसे में संभावित किराया सिरसी से 6061, फाटा से 6063 तो गुप्तकाशी से 8533 रु. प्रति यात्री रहेगा। हेली बुकिंग के लिए भी यात्रा का पंजीकरण होना अनिवार्य है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

महाराजा अग्रसेन एयरपोर्ट • फ्लाइट का शेड्यूल जारी, 2 घंटे में सभी टिकटें बुक

हिसार से अयोध्या की फ्लाइट का किराया ₹2499 और 2999 तय

14 अप्रैल को पीएम मोदी करेंगे एयरपोर्ट का उद्घाटन

सुरील भार्गव/राजेश सैनी | चंडीगढ़/हिसार

नागरिक एवं उड्डयन विभाग हरियाणा ने हिसार एयरपोर्ट से अयोध्या तक फ्लाइट्स का किराया तय कर दिया है। पहली फ्लाइट 14 अप्रैल को अयोध्या पहुंचेगी। दो कैटेगिरी में 2499 और 2999 रुपए किराया तय किया गया है। यह एक तरफ का किराया है। एलायंस एयर की ऑफिशियल वेबसाइट पर भी दिल्ली और अयोध्या हवाई सेवाओं को लेकर शेड्यूल जारी किया गया है। देर शाम को जारी किए गए शेड्यूल में 2840 रुपए से लेकर 3509 रुपए तक किराया शो कर रहा है। हिसार से दिल्ली और अयोध्या के रूट दिखा रहे हैं। बाकी रूट का अभी शेड्यूल नहीं डाला गया है। 14 अप्रैल को पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी इस फ्लाइट को हरी झंडी दिखाकर हिसार से हवाई सेवाओं की शुरुआत करेंगे। इसके बाद दिल्ली व अयोध्या के लिए हर शुक्रवार व रविवार को फ्लाइट जाएंगी। उसी दिन वापसी भी होगी।

सप्ताह में 2 बार जाएगी फ्लाइट, अभी पहली 9 फ्लाइट का किराया तय किया



पीएम के लिए जर्मन तकनीक से लगा रहे टेंट

दिल्ली की एजेंसी एयरपोर्ट पर जर्मन तकनीक से टेंट लगाने में जुटी हुई है। यहां 25 हजार लोगों के बैठने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है। इधर, यमुनानगर में भी युद्ध स्तर पर तैयारियां चल रही हैं।

फ्लाइट का समय भी तय किया

सुबह हिसार से यह 10:40 पर चलेगी और दोपहर साढ़े 12 बजे अयोध्या पहुंच जाएगी। वापसी में दोपहर 1 बजे अयोध्या से चलेगी और शाम को 3:40 हिसार पहुंच जाएगी। आते और जाते समय यह फ्लाइट दिल्ली भी जाएगी। हिसार से अयोध्या के लिए टिकटों की बिक्री शुक्रवार शाम को करीब साढ़े 8 बजे हुई। देखते ही देखते साढ़े 10 बजे तक सभी टिकटें बुक हो गईं। यानी लोगों ने दो घंटे में ही टिकटें खरीद लीं। यहां से अभी 72 सीटर विमान उड़ान भरेगा। बता दें कि अयोध्या, जम्मू, जयपुर, दिल्ली और अहमदाबाद के लिए भी उड़ानें शुरू की जाएंगी।

6 जिलों की टीमों जुटी: एयरपोर्ट रनवे एरिया से 2 नीलगाय व 1 जंगली सुअर पकड़े



महाराजा अग्रसेन एयरपोर्ट के उद्घाटन से पहले वन्य प्राणी सिरदर्द बने हुए हैं। रनवे व इसके आसपास नीलगाय व अन्य वन्य प्राणी घूम रहे हैं। वाइल्ड लाइफ को 6 जिलों की टीमों इन्हें पकड़ने के लिए दिन-रात लगी है। टीम ने शुक्रवार को दूसरे दिन 2 नीलगाय

व 1 जंगली सुअर पकड़कर बाहर निकाला। ये टीमों 11 घोड़ों की मदद से इन्हें काबू कर रही है। वाइल्ड लाइफ के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि अभी भी 6 के आसपास नीलगाय और देखी गई हैं। दीवारों के नीचे से जंगली जानवर घुस रहे हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

एअर इंडिया लेकर आई एपल एयरटैग सिस्टम



मुंबई | टाटा समूह के स्वामित्व वाली एअर इंडिया ने एक नई व्यवस्था शुरू की है। इससे यात्री एपल एयरटैग की मदद से अपने खोए हुए सामान को ट्रैक कर सकेंगे। एशिया में पहली बार यह सुविधा एयर इंडिया द्वारा पेश की गई है। अब जो भी यात्री एयर इंडिया की फ्लाइट से सफर करेंगे और उनके पास आईफोन, आईपैड या आईमैक है तो वे अपने सामान को ट्रैक कर पाएंगे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

स्टार एयर बेलगावी से क्षेत्रीय उड़ानों का विस्तार करेगी

बेंगलुरु, 4 अप्रैल (एजेंसियां)। संजय घोडावत समूह की एयरलाइन स्टार एयर अप्रैल-मई में नए और उन्नत मार्गों के साथ बेलगावी से क्षेत्रीय मार्गों पर अपने नेटवर्क का विस्तार करने की योजना घोषित की है। एयरलाइन ने शुरुवार को कहा कि वह इस माह के मध्य से बेंगलुरु-

बेलगावी-बेंगलुरु मार्ग पर सेवाएं फिर से शुरू करेगी तथा बेलगावी-जयपुर-बेलगावी क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना के तहत परिचालन जारी रखेगी। एयरलाइन इसी माह के मध्य से बेलगावी-पुणे-बेलगावी के बीच उड़ानें शुरू होने की भी तैयारी कर रही है। एयरलाइन ने एक विज्ञप्ति में कहा कि वह चुनिंदा मार्गों पर बिजनेस-क्लास केबिन की सुविधा वाले उन्नत एम्ब्रैयर ई175 विमान पेश करेगी, जो यात्रियों के

■ स्टार एयर बेंगलुरु-बेलगावी-बेंगलुरु मार्ग पर सेवाएं फिर से शुरू करेगी



लिए बेहतर यात्रा अनुभव सुनिश्चित करेगा। एयरलाइन मई से बेलगावी-मुंबई-कोल्हापुर मार्ग पर उन्नत

एम्ब्रैयर ई175 विमान की सेवाएं देने जा रही है जिससे यात्रियों की सुविधा और क्षमता में वृद्धि होगी। स्टार एयर मई के मध्य से बेलगावी से हैदराबाद के बीच उड़ानें शुरू करेगी। स्टार एयर की मुख्य वाणिज्यिक एवं विपणन अधिकारी शिल्पा भाटिया ने कहा कि स्टार एयर सुरक्षित, विश्वसनीय और आरामदायक हवाई यात्रा की पेशकश करते हुए अपने नेटवर्क का विस्तार करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

4 APRIL 2025

London-Mumbai flight diverted to Turkey; over 250 passengers stuck

MUMBAI, DHNS: A London-Mumbai flight, operated by Virgin Atlantic, has been stranded in the Diyarbakir Airport in Turkey for over a day triggering strong reactions in the social media platforms.

More than 250 persons are on board the flight, reports reaching here said.

The flight took off from Heathrow Airport in London,

however, there was a medical emergency on board, and it was diverted to Diyarbakir Airport, where it is currently stranded because of technical issues in the plane.

“We apologise for the inconvenience caused. We are urgently looking at all available options to ensure our customers can continue their journeys to Mumbai as quickly as

possible. As soon as we have an update, we will communicate to all customers involved,” the Virgin Atlantic said responding to posts on social media platforms.

“Diyarbakir Airport being outside its operational hours, customers remained in the international departure lounge overnight. Refreshments, including water were provided,

and we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused,” it said.

AAP’s Mumbai President Preeti Sharma Memon flagged the issue on social media.

Responding to the complaints, the Indian Embassy in Turkey said that they are in contact with authorities and efforts are being made to take care of the stranded passengers.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

India will Soon be Building its Own Regional Aircraft: Naidu

CSIR-NAL's tie-up with pvt co Pioneer Clean for trainer aircraft to help, says minister

Our Bureau

New Delhi: India is working to build regional transport aircraft locally, civil aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu said Friday.

It will likely be a 90-seat aircraft, for which design work is in progress and the airplane could be in service as early as 2026.

Meanwhile, CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) and Pioneer Clean AMPS—a Mumbai-based company—on Friday entered into a technology licence agreement for a two-seater trainer aircraft Hansa-3 (NG). The pact is for manufacturing and commercialisation, marketing and after-sales support for flight training and allied applications.

Naidu said that the collaboration between a private partner and CSIR-NAL will pave way to manufacture our own aircraft which has been a dream for the India

“Today, we are capable of building our own trainer aircraft, fighter combat planes, and light combat helicopters. These silos slowly will allow us to achieve the target of building our own regional aircraft,” Naidu said.

He said that the challenge until now was to find a manufacturing

On the Agenda

	2014	2025
Aircraft	390	840
Flyers*	100	220
Airports	74	159

*Passengers flying every year (in million)



Today we are capable of building our own trainer aircraft, fighter combat planes, light combat helicopters. These silos slowly will allow us to achieve the target of building our own regional aircraft

RAM MOHAN NAIDU | Civil Aviation Minister

partner.

“We had the knowhow, we had the manpower but somehow we were unable to find a suitable manufacturing partner to build such high precision equipment which is what we have cracked today,” Naidu said. The Hansa-3 (NG) aircraft he said is a world-class model in the trainer category with glass cockpit and modern avionic equipment.

Naidu said that there are over 1,700 planes on order by Indian carriers and with around 15 crew required to operate each aircraft and that would need a lot of pilots.

“It’s a positive thing for the flying training organisations that they

now have a locally built aircraft to choose from,” Naidu said, adding that it will remove the bottlenecks in the flying training industry which will allow aspiring pilots to get their training locally.

“To give you a scale of the growth of the growth in the aviation sector here are some numbers—from 390 aircraft in 2014, today we have 840 aircraft. From 100 million passengers in 2014, today 220 million passengers take the flight every year today. From 74 airports in 2014, we have been able to build 159 airports today. So in each and every metric of civil aviation, India has doubled,” the minister said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

NCLAT dismisses plea against liquidation of Go First



THE INSOLVENCY
APPELLATE tribunal
NCLAT on Friday
dismissed a batch of

petitions filed against the
liquidation of grounded carrier
Go First. A three-member NCLAT
bench led by Chairperson Justice
Ashok Bhushan upheld the earlier
order passed by the Delhi bench
of the National Company Law
Tribunal (NCLT), which had, on
January 20, ordered for the
airline's liquidation.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

केदारनाथ के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर किराया पांच प्रतिशत बढ़ा

देहरादून, उत्तराखंड की चारधाम यात्रा के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर सेवा का किराया जारी कर दिया गया है। पिछले साल के मुकाबले केदारनाथ हेलीकॉप्टर के किराये में पांच प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। इसके तहत रुद्रप्रयाग के सिरसी से 6060 रुपये और फाटा हेलीपैड से केदारनाथ के लिए 6062 रुपये किराया तय किया गया है। गुप्तकाशी से केदारनाथ के लिए 8532 रुपये चुकाने होंगे। तय किराया प्रतियात्री आने-जाने का होगा।

केदारनाथ घाट के लिए हेली सेवा की ऑनलाइन बुकिंग आठ अप्रैल से शुरू होगी। उत्तराखंड नागरिक उड्डयन विकास प्राधिकरण (यूकाडा) और इंडियन रेलवे कंटरिंग एंड टूरिज्म कॉर्पोरेशन (आईआरसीटीसी) ने इसकी तैयारी कर ली है। बुकिंग के लिए शीघ्र ही वेबसाइट खोली जाएगी।



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HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

4 APRIL 2025

Virgin's London-Mumbai flight stranded in Turkey

Yogesh Naik

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MUMBAI: More than 250 passengers on a Virgin Atlantic flight, a large number of them Indian, are stranded at a small military airport in south-eastern Turkey. They have been stuck there since Wednesday morning, with barely any basic amenities, after their Mumbai-bound aircraft from London's Heathrow airport was diverted to the Diyarbakir airport.

The flight was to land in Mumbai at 1.40 am on Thursday but there is no clarity on when it will depart from Turkey.

The flight was diverted after a medical emergency on board, but the A350-1000 aircraft developed a technical snag and could not take off. Passengers claim the situation is growing increasingly unbearable.

A Virgin Atlantic spokesperson said, "Our engineers are continuing their thorough assessments of the aircraft, and we are actively exploring all options including the operation of an alternative aircraft to ensure customers can reach Mumbai as soon as possible."

A passenger appealed in a post on X, "More than 200 Indian passengers, including a

pregnant woman, are stranded without water and basic facilities. Please intervene urgently."

Mumbai chief of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Preeti Sharma Menon's sister and niece are on the flight.

"It's been 24 hours and not a single airline representative has met the passengers. They have barely any food, one toilet amongst 275 pax, phones running out of batteries as they don't have Turkish adapters. There are babies, pregnant women, diabetics and old people in this ordeal," the Aam Aadmi Party leader claimed on Thursday.



Corporate Communications Directorate

LOKSATYA

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

भारत की पहली 6 सीटर फ्लाईंग टैक्सी

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्या । एयरोस्पेस स्टार्टअप सरला एविएशन ने स्टार्टअप महाकुंभ में अपनी प्रोटोटाइप एयर टैक्सी 'शून्य' को पेश किया है। यह टैक्सी एक बार में 160 किलोमीटर की दूरी तक उड़ सकती है, लेकिन इसे 20-30 किमी की छोटी यात्राओं के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। कंपनी ने कहा कि ये 250 किमी प्रति घंटे तक की रफ्तार से उड़ सकेगी और सिर्फ 20 मिनट की चार्जिंग में एक ट्रिप के लिए तैयार हो जाएगी। शून्य फ्लाईंग टैक्सी से भीड़भाड़ वाले क्षेत्रों में ट्रैवल टाइम में काफी कमी आने की उम्मीद है। इसमें पायलट सहित 7 लोग बैठ सकेंगे। कंपनी ने जनवरी में हुए भारत मोबिलिटी ग्लोबल एक्सपो में इसे पहली बार रिवील किया था। कंपनी के को-फाउंडर शिवम चौहान ने दैनिक भास्कर को बताया कि वह 2028 तक फ्लाईंग टैक्सी सर्विस की शुरुआत बेंगलुरु से करेंगे। इसके बाद मुंबई, दिल्ली, नोएडा और पुणे जैसे शहरों में एयर टैक्सी सर्विस को एक्सपेंड करने की प्लानिंग है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

4 APRIL 2025

'Airlines received 24 hoax bomb calls this year till Mar 25'

NEW DELHI: Airlines received 24 hoax bomb threat calls this year till March 25, the government said on Thursday.

Citing data from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol said a total of 836 hoax bomb threats were received by airline operators since 2022 till March 25, 2025.

In 2022, the number of calls stood at 13 and rose to 71 in 2023. Last year, there were 728 such calls and the count was at 24 this year up to March 25, as per the data.

In a written reply to the

Closer Look

» In 2022, the number of calls stood at 13 and rose to 71 in 2023. Last year, there were 728 such calls and the count was at 24 this year up to March 25

» The minister said 13 people were arrested in 2024 for making hoax bomb threat calls to airlines

» BCAS has mandated robust protocols for handling such threats in coordination with law enforcement agencies, central security agencies, CISF and stakeholders, leading to minimal impact on flight operations.

Lok Sabha, the minister said 13 people were arrested in 2024 for making hoax bomb threat calls to airlines.

BCAS has mandated

robust protocols for handling such threats in coordination with law enforcement agencies, central security agencies, CISF and stakeholders,

leading to minimal impact on flight operations.

Bomb Threat Contingency Plan (BTCP) is put in place to handle such threats.

"As a part of BTCP, every airport has a designated Bomb Threat Assessment Committee (BTAC) which analyses the threat and takes action.

"In order to deal with hoax bomb threats, BCAS has issued advisories to all the civil aviation stakeholders in the country to ensure maintenance of robust aviation security infrastructure and uphold public confidence in air travel," the minister said. MPOST



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025



Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh, Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu and others during the announcement of ToT Partner for CSIR's Hansa-3(NG) Aircraft, at the National Media Centre in New Delhi

RANJAN DIMRI

CSIR-NAL, Pioneer Clean AMPS ink tech licence pact

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

In a boost for indigenous manufacturing activities, CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) and Pioneer Clean AMPS Pvt Ltd on Friday entered into a technology licence agreement for the two-seater trainer aircraft Hansa-3 (NG).

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) has designed the trainer plane.

The pact is for manufacturing and commercialisation as well as marketing and after-sales support for flight training and allied applications.

At a function in the national capital, Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said the Hansa-3 (NG) aircraft will help fulfill various goals, including that of

a self-reliant India and push aircraft manufacturing activities.

Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan said the country needs to have more pilots, and indigenous aircraft will help in training them.

Efforts are also on to develop India's own regional aircraft, he noted.

He highlighted the sector's growth and said the government plans to set up 120 more airports in the next 10 years.

Currently, there are 159 operational airports in the country.

India is one of the world's fastest growing civil aviation markets, and airlines are expanding their fleets as well as networks to cater to the rising passenger demand.

There will be a requirement for pilots and more trainer aircraft as well as flying training organisations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

RASHTRIYA SAHARA

DELHI

5 APRIL 2025

प्रशिक्षण विमान हंस-3 के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी लाइसेंस समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर



नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। स्वदेशी विनिर्माण गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सीएसआईआर-एनएएल और पायनियर क्लीन एम्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड ने शुक्रवार को दो-सीट वाले प्रशिक्षण विमान हंस-3 के लिए एक प्रौद्योगिकी लाइसेंस समझौता किया। वैज्ञानिक और औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद (सीएसआईआर)- राष्ट्रीय वैमानिकी प्रयोगशाला (एनएएल) ने इस प्रशिक्षण विमान को डिजाइन किया है। यह समझौता विनिर्माण और व्यावसायिकरण के साथ उड़ान प्रशिक्षण और संबद्ध अनुप्रयोगों के लिए विपणन और बिक्री के बाद समर्थन के लिए है।

केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में आयोजित एक समारोह में कहा कि नई पीढ़ी का हंस-3 विमान आत्मनिर्भर भारत सहित विभिन्न लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने और विमान विनिर्माण गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने में मदद करेगा।

नागर विमानन मंत्री के राममोहन ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि देश को अधिक पायलटों की जरूरत है, और स्वदेशी विमान उन पायलटों को प्रशिक्षण देने में मदद करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत के अपने क्षेत्रीय विमान विकसित करने के प्रयास भी जारी हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार अगले 10 वर्षों में 120 और हवाई अड्डे स्थापित करने की योजना बना रही है। वर्तमान में, देश में 159 परिचालन हवाई अड्डे हैं।

Lon-Mum flight stranded in Turkey for 24 hrs after medical emergency

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai/New Delhi: More than 260 passengers of Wednesday's Virgin Atlantic London-Mumbai flight were stranded at Turkey's Diyarbakir Airport for 24 hours and counting. The flight had to be diverted due to a medical emergency and then reportedly had a technical issue. The diversion happened after a passenger experienced a panic attack, leading to an unscheduled landing, followed by technical inspections of the aircraft.

"When we landed, first we remained onboard for five hours. Then we were asked to alight as the airline needed to fix a technical issue on the plane. We have now been at the airport for 13 hours with Virgin Atlantic neither making arrangements for us nor giving us any information on when we will leave for Mumbai," Sagar Kochhar, one of the stranded passengers, told **TOI** on the phone from Turkey.

In a short video clip posted by passengers on social me-



Over 260 passengers were stranded at the Turkey airport since Wednesday

dia, a four-month pregnant woman and a senior citizen with diabetes complained that they have not had proper food for over 16 hours. "They gave some rice, wheat and some water, everybody is suffering, please help us," said the pregnant woman. Passengers with medical conditions such as diabetics, blood pressure and kidney problems said they have been starving for hours. "There are four babies on board, they have not been fed their food as it is in the aircraft. No crew member or airline staff has come to update

us," said a passenger.

The Virgin Atlantic A350 aircraft departed London Heathrow at 12 noon (local time) and about three hours later when overflying Turkey it landed in Diyarbakir airport.

A middle-aged woman returning to Mumbai after visiting her daughter in London spoke to **TOI** and said they have been at the airport for close to a day now. "We landed here at 8.30pm (IST) and since then there has been no information about our flight status. The airline provided a beverage about 14 hours after we landed

here," she alleged. She said the conditions were challenging at the airport with only one toilet for the entire plane load of passengers, one charging point for phones and only paid Wi-Fi which means passengers who cannot make online digital payments have not been in touch with their relatives for about a day now.

A Virgin Atlantic spokesperson commented: "The VS358 flight from London Heathrow to Mumbai on 2nd April was cancelled due to an urgent medical diversion to Diyarbakir Airport in Turkey, followed by ongoing technical inspections of the aircraft. Our engineers are continuing their thorough assessments of the aircraft, and we are actively exploring all options including the operation of an alternative aircraft to ensure customers can reach Mumbai as soon as possible. In the meantime, passengers are being provided with refreshments, and we will communicate to all customers involved as soon as new information becomes available."