



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

विमान दुर्घटना के दो तिहाई पीड़ितों को मुआवजा दिया

मुंबई। एअर इंडिया ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि उसने अहमदाबाद में 12 जून को हुए विमान हादसे में मारे गए करीब दो-तिहाई पीड़ितों के परिवारों को मुआवजा दे दिया है। एअर इंडिया ने 14 जून को घोषणा की थी कि वह अहमदाबाद विमान दुर्घटना में प्रत्येक मृतक और जीवित बचे व्यक्ति के परिवारों को तत्काल वित्तीय आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में मदद के लिए 25 लाख रुपये का अंतरिम मुआवजा प्रदान करेगी। एजेंसी



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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air India pilot collapses in cockpit before take-off

Mumbai: Air India's Bengaluru-Delhi flight, scheduled for the early hours of Friday, was delayed by two hours after one of its pilots collapsed in the Airbus A320 aircraft cockpit. The pilot was immediately shifted to the hospital, and his condition is stable. In a statement, the airline said there was a medical emergency involving one of our pilots in the early hours of Friday. "He is currently stable but continues to be under the supervision of doctors at the same hospital." OUR BUREAU



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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air India pays damages to June 12 crash victims



Mumbai: Air India on Friday said it has paid the compensation to families of nearly two-thirds of the victims who died in the June 12 plane crash in Ahmedabad, killing 260 people onboard and on the ground. Tata Sons is in the process of establishing the apparatus to provide longer-term assistance to the families and survivors, the Tata Group-owned airline said. ¶¶



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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Regulators warned AI Express about delay in Airbus engine fix

Reuters
New Delhi

DGCA reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express told *Reuters* it acknowledged the error to the

Indian watchdog and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures".

Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad which killed all but one of the 242 people onboard.

The engine issue in the Air India Express' Airbus was raised on March 18, months before the crash. But the regulator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying

three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

DGCA'S RED FLAG

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2023 issued an airworthiness directive to address a "potential unsafe condition" on CFM International LEAP-1A engines, asking for replacement of some components such as engine seals and ro-

tating parts, saying some manufacturing deficiencies had been found.

The agency's directive said "this condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of affected parts, possibly resulting in high energy debris release, with consequent damage to, and reduced control of, the aeroplane."

The government's confidential memo in March sent to the airline, seen by *Reuters*, said that surveillance by

the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) revealed the parts modification "was not complied" on an engine of an Airbus A320 "within the prescribed time limit".

Air India Express told *Reuters* its technical team missed the scheduled implementation date for parts replacement due to the migration of records on its monitoring software, and fixed the problem soon after it was identified.



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Air India pays compensation to 2/3rds of June 12 crash victims' kin



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, 4 July

Air India on Friday said it has paid the compensation to families of nearly two-thirds of the victims who died in the June 12 plane crash in Ahmedabad.

"Our teams have been helping families receive interim compensation. Every affected family is being directly assisted by an Air India representative, with nearly two-thirds having already received payment or are in the final stages," Air India Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Campbell Wilson told the airline employees.

Tata Sons is in the process of establishing the apparatus to provide longer-term assistance to the families and survivors, the

airline said.

In an internal post to airline employees, Wilson also said the carrier will continue to "invest in upgrading aircraft, products, service, systems, capabilities and, most of all, people".

The crash, one of the worst air disasters in India in decades, involved a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner operating as Air India flight AI71. Of the 242 people onboard, 241 were killed, while the total death toll stood at 260, including casualties on the ground.

Soon after the crash, Air India parent Tata Sons announced that it will provide ₹1 crore each to the families of each person who died in the crash.

And on June 14, Air India announced that it will provide an interim compensation of ₹25

lakh to the families of each of the deceased and survivors of the Ahmedabad plane crash to help address immediate financial needs. Its on-ground presence in Ahmedabad to see this process to completion, he said, will continue for as long as required.

Air India continues to observe its "Safety Pause", the deliberate temporary scale-back of its international and domestic networks, he said, acknowledging that, besides the customer impact, this temporary curtailment of flights put extra pressure on Air India frontliners in call centres and at airports, and has "disrupted crew rosters".

"The 'pause' was an important and necessary move to accommodate voluntary additional aircraft checks, navigate

the volatile international air-space environment and to stabilise our flight schedule to restore faith and trust," Wilson said.

Besides providing extra resilience, the extra aircraft ground time is allowing the airline to accelerate its aircraft reliability enhancement programs, he said.

Air India on June 18 had announced a 15 per cent reduction in international flights operated with widebody planes till mid-July as amid operational disruptions due to enhanced safety inspections and geopolitical situation, among others.

"Irrespective of any cause, the accident of AI71 and the loss of so many lives will forever stand as one of our darkest days. It must also signal the start of a new era," Air India chief said.

A-I Express delayed Airbus engine fix, forged records

Aviation watchdog, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by EU aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express told Reuters it acknowledged the error to the Indian watchdog and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures".

The engine issue in the Air India Express Airbus was raised on March 18. But the regulator has this year also warned Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings. Air India Express said its technical team missed the scheduled implementation date for parts replacement due to the migration of records on its monitoring software, and fixed the problem soon after it was identified. **REUTERS**

Pilot collapses before flight

An Air India pilot collapsed just prior to operating a flight from Bengaluru to Delhi, sources said on Friday.

The pilot was immediately taken to hospital and the airline had to arrange another pilot to fly the passengers to their destination.

Air India confirmed that "there was a medical emergency involving one of our pilots in the early hours of July 4." **PTI**

“THE ‘PAUSE’ WAS A NECESSARY MOVE TO ACCOMMODATE VOLUNTARY ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT CHECKS AND TO STABILISE OUR FLIGHT SCHEDULE TO RESTORE FAITH AND TRUST”

Campbell Wilson, Air India CEO & MD



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SC to hear KAL Airways plea against SpiceJet on July 18

BHAVINI MISHRA
New Delhi, 4 July

Sun Group founder Kalanithi Maran and KAL Airways – an airline backed by him – on Friday moved the Supreme Court challenging a Delhi High Court’s May 23 order dismissing their pleas seeking damages of ₹1,323 crore from SpiceJet.

The apex court will hear the case on July 18. While rejecting their plea in May, the Delhi High Court had observed that the former promoter of SpiceJet engaged in a calculated gamble by delaying and re-filing their challenge to the arbitral award.

“This...is not a simple case of delay in removing objections in re-filing the appeals. It is a case of deliberate and wilful concealment of facts both from the Division Bench as well as from the respondents and a



The plea of Kalanithi Maran, founder and chairman, Sun Group, was earlier dismissed by an arbitral tribunal

calculated gamble taken by the appellants,” the high court had said.

The court declined to condone the delay of 55 days in filing and 236 days in re-filing the present appeals.

“As the application for condonation of delay in filing and re-filing have been dismissed, the appeals also stand dismissed on the ground of delay

without going into merits,” the court had said. Earlier, the petitions of Maran and KAL Airways were rejected by an arbitral tribunal, and then by a single judge Bench of the High Court.

Arbitration proceedings, led by a panel of three retired Supreme Court judges, had also rejected the damages claim, SpiceJet had said in a filing. The case goes back to 2015, when Maran and KAL Airways had transferred their entire 58.46 per cent stake in the airline to Ajay Singh – who also took over liabilities worth ₹1,500 crore.

The former Union minister and his airline also claimed to have paid ₹679 crore to SpiceJet for issuing convertible warrants and preference shares. But they later alleged that SpiceJet failed to issue these securities and sought ₹ 1,323 crore in damages.



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'We're hostages of Paris': 1,500 flights cancelled amid strike

AGENCIES
Paris, 4 July

A strike by French air traffic controllers entered its second day on Friday, leaving many passengers stranded at the start of Europe's peak travel season.

Civil aviation agency DGAC told airlines to cancel 40 per cent of flights at the three main Paris airports on Friday because of the strike, which the air traffic controllers say is over staff shortages and ageing equipment.

Up to half of flights at France's other airports, mostly in

the south, were also affected, DGAC added.

"We are hostages of Paris," said Mariano Mignola, an Italian tourist stranded in the French capital's Orly airport with two young children.

"Today we had to go home and the first available flight is July 8. We have no flat, we can't find a hotel, we can't find a car, we can't find a train, we can't find anything," he said.

"We are in a panic, the children are scared and we don't know what to do."

French transport minister

Philippe Tabarot called the strike unacceptable as did Ryanair boss Michael O'Leary, who branded it "another recreational strike by French air traffic controllers' unions".

On top of the cancellations, DGAC warned that passengers could be affected by delays and significant disruption.

The Airlines for Europe (A4E) lobby group said late on Thursday that 1,500 flights had been cancelled over the two-day strike, affecting 300,000 passengers and causing cascading delays.

Air traffic control services have remained short-staffed since the pandemic, meaning any disruption in the tower can quickly filter into airlines' flying schedules.

EasyJet Plc, which had 124 cancellations on Thursday and expects 150 on Friday, urged the French government to find solutions to protect overflights in Europe.

"More needs to be done to limit and prevent disruption and protect flights in the future," Chief Executive Officer Kenton Jarvis said.

One of the two unions leading the strike, UNSA-ICNA, said in a statement there are not enough employees to handle surging air travel and that inflation is eating away at salaries. The unions also are protesting new reform measures aiming to more tightly monitor their work, prompted by a near-collision at the Bordeaux airport. Transport Minister Philippe Tabarot called the union demands — and their decision to strike just as French schools close for the summer and many families head on vacation — unacceptable.



Passengers look a departures information board at Saint-Exupery airport, near Lyon, as French air traffic controllers launched a two-day strike



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DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

हवाई हादसा • अलग-अलग राज्यों से 83 फ्लाइट रद्द

अहमदाबाद हादसे के बाद यात्री घटने का ट्रेंड नहीं दिखा

ब्रका फाउंडेशन | दस से सड़से योजना हवाई हादसे के बाद तकनीकी छात्रों ने नए देशों में तयवी के चलते, नया की पाठवी और अन्य राज्यों से 83 उड़ानें रद्द की गईं। वैश्विक रूप से हादसे के कारणों का विश्लेषण करने के लिए 11 राज्यों से 29 उड़ानें रद्द की गईं।

भारत में अहमदाबाद हादसे के बाद यात्री घटने का ट्रेंड नहीं दिखा। अहमदाबाद हादसे के बाद यात्री घटने का ट्रेंड नहीं दिखा। अहमदाबाद हादसे के बाद यात्री घटने का ट्रेंड नहीं दिखा।



दुर्घटना से 11 दिन पहले, अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रस्थानों की संख्या 88 दिनों तक 100,000 से ऊपर और शून्य तक गिरने का संकेत देती रही। दुर्घटना के बाद के 17 दिनों में से आठ दिनों में यह संख्या 100,000 से ऊपर देखी गई।



दुर्घटना के बाद वैश्विक बाजारों में अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों की संख्या में तेज उतार-चढ़ाव दिखा। यह 16 राज्यों के बाद, तीन दिनों तक 1,200 से नीचे आ गई। दुर्घटना के लिए संभावित रूप से आठ दिनों में यह संख्या 100,000 से ऊपर देखी गई।



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DECCAN HERALD

JAIPUR.

4 JULY 2025

Air India cancels US-bound flight, flyers stranded in Vienna

MUMBAI, PTI: An Air India flight from Delhi to Washington, which took off on July 2, could not complete its journey after it developed a technical glitch during a scheduled refuelling stop-over in Vienna, the Tata Group-owned airline said on Thursday.

Consequently, its return flight from Washington to Delhi, scheduled on July 2, was also cancelled.

Of late, frequent delays and cancellations of long-haul flights by Air India have been causing severe inconvenience to passengers.

According to an Air India statement, "Flight AI03 from Delhi to Washington, DC on July 2 made a planned fuel stop in Vienna. During routine aircraft checks, an extended maintenance task was identified, which required rectification before the next flight and, thus, additional time for completion."

The airline said that as the Vienna to Washington leg was cancelled, alternative arrangements were made for the stranded passengers.

Passengers eligible for visa-free entry or those with valid Schengen visas were provided hotel accommodations in Vienna until the next available flight, as per the airline.



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DECCAN HERALD

JALPUR

4 JULY 2025

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DAINIK JAGRAN

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5 JULY 2025

उड़ान भरने से पहले ही एअर इंडिया का पायलट हुआ वेहोश

मुंबई प्रेस : एअर इंडिया का एक पायलट बेंगलुरु से दिल्ली के लिए उड़ान भरने से ठीक पहले बेहोश हो गया। पायलट को तुरंत अस्पताल ले जाया गया। एयरलाइन को यात्रियों को उनके गंतव्य तक पहुंचाने के लिए दूसरे पायलट की व्यवस्था करनी पड़ी।

एअर इंडिया ने पुष्टि की कि चार जुलाई की सुबह हमारे एक पायलट के साथ एक मेडिकल इमरजेंसी हुई। इसके कारण पायलट बेंगलुरु से दिल्ली के लिए उड़ान एआइ2414 को संचालित करने में असमर्थ था। उसे तुरंत स्थानीय अस्पताल ले जाया गया। फिलहाल उनकी हालत स्थिर है, लेकिन वे हावटों की निगरानी में हैं।

'देश में हर 40 दिन में एक नया हवाई अड्डा'

राज्य ब्यूरो, जागरण • देहरादून

केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री किजरापु राममोहन नायडू ने कहा कि देश में प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के मार्गदर्शन में नागरिक उड्डयन सबसे तेज गति से बढ़ने वाला क्षेत्र है। यह आठ से 10 प्रतिशत की गति से आगे बढ़ा है और भारत में विश्व का तीसरा विशाल घरेलू सिविल एविएशन नेटवर्क बना है। बीते 10 वर्ष में देश में 88 नए हवाई अड्डे जोड़े गए हैं। यानी लगभग हर 40 दिन में एक नया हवाई अड्डा बन रहा है। कहा कि 2030 तक भारत विश्व का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा विमानन बाजार बनेगा। देश में 2047 तक हवाई अड्डों की संख्या 400 तक पहुंचेगी। अहमदाबाद हादसे का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि इसकी जांच चल रही है और जांच के बाद जो भी निर्णय लेने होंगे लिए जाएंगे। उन्होंने केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्रालय के तत्वावधान में यहां आयोजित उत्तर क्षेत्रीय राज्यों के नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में यह बात कही। इस अवसर



केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री किजरापु राममोहन नायडू ने उत्तर क्षेत्रीय राज्यों के मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में कही बात

देहरादून के सम्मेलन में केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री किजरापु राममोहन नायडू का स्वागत करते सीएस फुकर सिंह धामी।
<< जागरण

पर उत्तराखंड के मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने पहाड़ी राज्यों के लिए पृथक पर्वतीय विमानन नीति बनाने का आग्रह किया।

नागरिक उड्डयन को और अधिक सशक्त बनाने के दृष्टिगत राज्यों से सुझाव लेने के लिए नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्रालय ने क्षेत्रीय सम्मेलनों की श्रृंखला शुरू की है। उद्घाटन सत्र में केंद्रीय मंत्री नायडू ने कहा कि आज देश में हवाई सेवा अधिक सुलभ, उपलब्ध व किफायती हुई

है। उन्होंने कहा कि उत्तर क्षेत्रीय राज्यों में हवाई सेवाओं के विस्तार, हेलीपोर्ट की संभावना, मंत्रालय से मदद समेत तमाम बिंदुओं पर राय लेने के लिए क्षेत्रीय सम्मेलनों की शुरुआत की गई है। यह क्षेत्र केवल हवाई सेवा ही उपलब्ध नहीं करता, बल्कि रोजगार भी पैदा करता है। मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने कहा कि यह सम्मेलन प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में देश के नागर विमानन क्षेत्र में आई ऐतिहासिक प्रगति का प्रमाण है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

4 JULY 2025

एअर इंडिया की दिल्ली-वाशिंगटन उड़ान विएना में रद

नई दिल्ली, आइएनएस: एअर इंडिया की एक और उड़ान को रास्ते में तकनीकी खामी का सामना करना पड़ा है। इसकी दिल्ली से वाशिंगटन जाने वाली उड़ान एआइ-103 में विएना में ईंधन भरने के दौरान तकनीकी खराबी आ गई। इसे रद कर दिया गया। वाशिंगटन से विएना

होते हुए दिल्ली की उड़ान एआइ-104 को भी रद कर दिया गया। एयरलाइन ने बताया प्रभावित यात्रियों को दिल्ली के लिए वैकल्पिक उड़ानों में फिर से बुक किया गया है या उनकी पसंद के आधार पर पूरा रिफंड दिया गया है। एअर इंडिया प्रवक्ता ने गुरुवार को बताया एआइ-

103 ने बुधवार दोपहर 12.45 बजे उड़ान भरी थी। इसे गुरुवार रात 8.45 बजे वाशिंगटन पहुंचना था। विएना में ईंधन के लिए निर्धारित स्टाप के दौरान विमान की नियमित जांच की गई। इसमें तकनीकी खामी पता चली जिसे उड़ान भरने से पहले ठीक किया जाना जरूरी था।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Nearly Two-Thirds of Families Compensated: Air India CEO

Forum Gandhi

Mumbai: Nearly two-thirds families of those killed in the crash of Air India's Dreamliner jet on June 12 have received their declared compensation so far, or the payment is in the final stages, Campbell Wilson, MD at the Tata Group-owned airline Friday told employees in a letter, reviewed by ET.

"Our teams have been helping families receive interim compensation. Every affected family is being directly assisted by an Air India representative, with nearly two-thirds having already received payment or are in the final stages," Wilson said. He added that the airline continues to have an on-ground presence in Ahmedabad, as required, where the Dreamliner crashed killing 241 people on bo-

ard and 34 on the ground. Explaining the ongoing "safety pause" at Air India with a temporary scale-back of operations, Wilson said the "pause" is allowing voluntary additional aircraft checks and helping stabilise the flight schedule. He added that the extra aircraft ground time, with support from Boeing to check aircraft from the US manufacturer in Air India's fleet, is "allowing us to accelerate our aircraft reliability enhancement programs so that we emerge stronger than before."

Elaborating on AI's commitment to investment and growth, Wilson said, "We will continue to invest in upgrading aircraft, products, service, systems, capabilities and, most of all, people." He added that delivering a "step change requires a similar uplifting of expectations, standards and mindsets."



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air India pays compensation to 2/3rds of crash victims

AIR INDIA ON Friday said it has paid the compensation to families of nearly two-thirds of the victims who died in the June 12 plane crash in Ahmedabad.

An Air India Dreamliner from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick crashed moments after takeoff on June 12, killing 260 people onboard and on the ground.

"Our teams have been helping families receive interim compensation. Every affected family is being directly assisted by an Air India representative, with nearly two-thirds having already received payment or are in the final stages," Air India MD & CEO Campbell Wilson told the airline employees in an internal post. —PTI

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

'AI Express delayed engine fix, forged records'

● After DGCA rap, airline says took remedial action

ADITYA KALRA & ADITI SHAH
New Delhi, July 4

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Civil Aviation (DGCA) reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by the European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express said it acknowledged the error to the Indian watchdog and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures". Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad which killed all but one of the 242 people on board. The world's worst aviation disaster in a decade is being investigated. The engine issue in the Air

REGULATORY VIOLATIONS

■ The engine issue in the Air India Express' Airbus was raised on March 18

■ DGCA has also warned Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides

■ The European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2023 issued a directive asking for replacement of components such as engine seals and rotating parts

■ The agency's directive said "this condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of affected parts"

■ Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad



India Express' Airbus was raised on March 18, months before the crash. But the regulator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

Air India Express is a subsidiary of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group. It has more than 115 aircraft and flies to more than 50 destinations, with 500 daily flights.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2023 issued an airworthiness directive to address a "potential unsafe condition" on CFM International LEAP-1A engines, asking for replacement of some components such as engine seals and rotating parts, saying some manufacturing deficiencies had been found. The agency's directive said "this condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of affected parts, possibly resulting in high energy

debris release, with consequent damage to, and reduced control of, the aeroplane."

The Indian government's confidential memo in March sent to the airline, seen by *Reuters*, said that surveillance by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) revealed the parts modification "was not complied" on an engine of an Airbus A320 "within the prescribed time limit".

"In order to show that the work has been carried out within the prescribed limits, the

AMOS records have apparent been altered/forged," the memo added, referring to the aircraft maintenance and engineering operating system software used by airlines to manage maintenance and airworthiness. The mandatory modification was required on Air India Express VT-ATD plane. The lapse indicates that the account manager has failed to ensure quality control," it added.

Air India Express told *Reuters* its technical team missed the scheduled implementation date for part replacement due to the migration of records on its monitoring software, and fixed the problem soon after it was identified.

It did not give dates of compliance or directly address DGCA's comment about records being altered, but said that after the March memo it took "necessary administrative action which included removing the quality manager from the position and suspending the deputy continuing airworthiness manager. —REUTERS



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Iran resumes international flights



IRAN'S IMAM
KHOMEINI
International
Airport has

welcomed its first foreign flight since the resumption of international air travel after a 20-day suspension, local media reported on Friday. According to Student News Network, Mehdi Ramezani, spokesperson for Iran's Civil Aviation Organisation, confirmed the Flydubai flight from the UAE landed on Wednesday, after extensive security and diplomatic coordination.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air France-KLM move to take control of SAS

Air France-KLM plans to lift its stake in Scandinavian airline SAS AB to a controlling holding, as it looks to extend consolidation in European aviation and better compete with rivals Deutsche Lufthansa AG and IAG SA. The carrier group, which owns nearly 20% of SAS now, will raise that to 60.5% by acquiring the stakes held by Castlelake LP and Lind Invest, Air France-KLM said in a statement.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

4 JULY 2025

Suicide victim was stopped at airport

Megha Kuchik

MUMBAI

A day after a 22-year-old final-year engineering student, Amit Desai, allegedly died by suicide after jumping from the 45th floor of a high-rise residential tower in Goregaon East, the Aarey police revealed that the authorities at the Mumbai Airport had not allowed him to board a flight to Germany.

Desai was scheduled to return to Germany for an internship but could not produce a hard copy of his residence permit.

He had shown a soft copy on his phone to the officials but they did not accept it.

The next day, he took an auto-rickshaw to the family's vacant flat at Oberoi E-Square Goregaon East. As he did not have change for the fare, he told the rickshaw driver he would return in five minutes with the money. Moments later, he was found to have jumped from the 45th floor.

His phone was recovered from the scene, but no suicide note was found. The Goregaon police have registered an accidental death report and are reviewing CCTV footage and questioning acquaintances to learn more about the incident.

Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

4 JULY 2025

Nashik Airport handles 1,146MT cargo in May



Prashant Nikale
NASHIK

Nashik International Airport recorded its highest-ever international cargo export in a single month by handling 1,146 metric tonnes (MT) in May 2025. This achievement marks a significant milestone for the airport, which now ranks 11th in the country and second in Maharashtra, following Mumbai.

In comparison, the airport had handled only 400MT of international cargo in the financial year 2023-24. This figure rose sharply to 4,400MT in 2024-25. With an additional 1,100MT expected to be exported by 2025, the airport is cementing its growing importance as a logistics hub.

The exported cargo mainly

consists of fresh produce such as fruits, vegetables, and flowers, as well as live animals—primarily sheep. These goods are largely destined for markets in the Middle East and, to some extent, Europe.

The airport's international cargo operations are managed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Hekon. The consistent growth in export volume is attributed to Nashik's emergence as a key centre for the shipment of fresh agricultural produce. The development offers farmers and traders quicker access to global markets, reduces spoilage, and ensures higher profitability.

Nashik Airport's evolving logistics capacity is being viewed as a crucial development in boosting the region's agri-export potential.

Pilot suffers 'medical emergency' just before take-off; flight delayed

Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: An Air India pilot collapsed in the cockpit just before he was to operate the airline's flight from Bengaluru to Delhi on Friday, people aware of the matter said.

Air India confirmed that there was a "medical emergency" involving one of its pilots in the early hours of July 4, who was rostered to operate its flight AI 2414 to Delhi from Bengaluru.

"There was a medical emergency involving one of our pilots in the early hours of July 4. As a result, the pilot was unable to operate the flight AI2414 from Bengaluru to Delhi, that he was rostered for, and was taken to a local hospital immediately," Air India said in a statement.

According to officials, the pilot was in the cockpit and was about to sign the mandatory documents — tech log — to accept the aircraft for flying when he collapsed there, the officials said.

"He is currently stable but continues to be under the supervision of doctors at the same hospital," the airline said. Consequently, AI2414 was



Pilot was unable to operate the flight from Bengaluru to Delhi and was taken to a local hospital

AIR INDIA

delayed and operated by another pilot, Air India said.

"Our immediate priority is to assist the pilot and his family to ensure his speedy recovery," the airline said in the statement.

The flight, originally scheduled to depart at 03:05 am, was delayed and eventually took off at 04:52 am after another pilot was arranged. It landed in Delhi at 07:21 am, nearly 90 minutes behind the scheduled arrival time of 05:55 am, according to Flightradar24.

Earlier in the day, Air India denied allegations of coercing families of victims of the AI-171 accident into signing documents about their financial dependency on the deceased to reduce compensation payouts.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

AI Express was warned about delay on Airbus engine fix

Reuters

reuters.com

NEW DELHI: India's aviation watchdog, reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320XLR as directed by European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express told Reuters it acknowledged the error to the Indian watchdog and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures".

Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad which killed all but one of the 242 people onboard. The world's worst aviation disaster in a decade is still being investigated.

The engine issue in the Air India Express Airbus was raised on March 18, months before the crash. But the regulator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

Air India Express is a subsidiary of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group. It has more than 115 aircraft and flies to more than 50 destinations, with 500 daily flights.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2023 issued an airworthiness directive to address a "potential unsafe condition" on CFM International LEAP-1A engines, asking for replacement of some components such as engine seals and retaining parts, saying



The engine issue was raised on March 18.

some manufacturing deficiencies had been found.

The agency's directive said this condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of affected parts, possibly resulting in high energy debris release, with consequent damage to, and reduction of, the aeroplane.

The Indian government's confidential memo in March sent to the airline, seen by Reuters, said that surveillance by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) revealed that parts modification "was not complied" on an engine of an Airbus A320 "within the prescribed time limit".

In order to show that it would have been carried out within the prescribed limits, it AMCA records show agreement been altered/signed," the memo added, referring to the Aircraft Maintenance and Engineering Operating System software used by airlines to manage maintenance and airworthiness.

The mandatory modification was required on Air India Express VT-A10 plane, the memo added. That plane typically flies on domestic routes and some international destinations such as Dubai and Moscow per the AirNav India website.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

4 JULY 2025

Purnia airport likely to get nod for commercial operations from Sept

Ruchir Kumar and
Aditya Nath Jha

ruchir.kumar@hindustantimes.com

PATNA/PURNIA: Commercial flights are likely to begin from the Purnia airport by September, after the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the Bihar government decided to complete all pending work related to the construction of an interim terminal building, on the ports concept, at the Purnia airport by August, said officials here on Thursday.

Bihar chief secretary Amrit Lal Meena and AAI chairman Vipin Kumar visited the Purnia airport on Thursday and held discussions with officials to sort out last-minute issues related to the boundary wall of the airport, the internal perimeter road, culvert and the terminal building.

"All pending issues have been resolved. The road construction department will make internal roads of the airport, on the request of the AAI. The construction of the boundary wall is also expected to be ready by mid-August. The departments concerned have been allocated work and asked to adhere to the timeline of mid-August," said Nitesh Ranaclaudran Deore, director of the civil aviation department (CAD), who was part of the team which visited Purnia on Thursday.

The Bihar government had also acquired 15 acres additional land for the extension of apron at the Purnia airport that will facilitate wide-bodied aircraft. With a runway length of 2800



Chief secretary Amrit Lal Meena and AAI chairman Vipin Kumar meet officials at the under-construction interim terminal building of Purnia airport, Thursday.

HT PHOTO

metres (approx), the Purnia airport has the longest runway among other airports in the state like Patna, Gaya and Darbhanga.

A decision to depute the Bihar Special Auxiliary Police (SAP) to handle the security at the interim terminal building of the Purnia airport was also taken on Thursday, said officials.

"We have kept August 15 as the deadline for completion of all pending work, so that we can operationalise the airport soon after that. Almost 70% work on the interim terminal building has already been completed by the agency engaged by the AAI. The state will assist in construction of the boundary wall, internal roads and culvert by mid-August. Work is moving at a fast pace and is at different stages of completion," said Anushal Kumar, DM, Purnia, who also attended the meeting.

The officials also decided to soon float a tender for the construction of the new permanent terminal building for the Purnia airport that will be ready in the next 2-3 years.

The AAI had on February 20 awarded work for the construction of an interim terminal building at the Purnia airport to Messrs MHPIL India Private Limited, a Kanpur based firm at a cost of ₹33.99 crore, which was 22% less than the estimated cost of ₹44.15 crore. Work on the interim terminal building had begun on March 1 with a completion deadline of four months.

The Purnia airport will be equipped with modern facilities. The AAI's architect has already prepared the design of Purnia Airport. The airport will be equipped with "state of the art" facilities and has been designed keeping in mind the passenger footfall for the next 30-40 years.

Total five aerobridges will be built at this airport, which will provide better connectivity to the passengers. It will also have a cargo complex, AC chiller plant, sewage treatment plant (STP), water and fire tank, electric sub-station, aviation fuel farm, administration office, commercial plaza and car parking.

Families of 47 victims of Air India plane crash receive interim payout

Interim compensation of ₹25 lakh is part of minimum liability for airlines in case of death or bodily injury for international flights; legal experts advise kin of victims to avoid waiving rights to further reparations when accepting interim payments

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India has paid an interim compensation of ₹25 lakh each to the families of 47 victims of the June 12 plane crash so far, and documents of 55 other claimants are being verified as legal experts with experience in aviation disaster cases advise relatives to avoid waiving their rights to further reparations when accepting interim payments, which have in the past resulted in reduced overall payouts.

"Passengers must be cautious and not sign any undertaking forgoing their rights as we have seen in all previous crashes, be it the bombing of Air India Kamishka AI 182 in 1985, or the more recent Mangalore air crash of 2010 and Kozhikode accident of 2020 involving Air India Express, where families received a compensation of a few lakhs, instead of a minimum liability of ₹75 lakh (ten years ago) or nearly ₹1.3 crore five years ago as per international convention," Sanjay Laxar, aviation consultant and former head of All India Cabin Crew Association, who has helped crew and passengers in



Disaster site: An FSL team examines the crashed Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft in Ahmedabad. (IANS/ANI)

past crashes, told *The Hindu*. The interim compensation of ₹25 lakh is part of the minimum legal liability for airlines in case of death or bodily injury for international flights, defined under the United Nations aviation safety watchdog International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)'s Montreal Convention 1999, that will be paid through Air India's insurers. On top of this, the Tata Group has announced an ex gratia of ₹1 crore each for the families of the deceased through a ₹500-crore trust it will be setting up.

Families of 241 out of 242 passengers and crew aboard the ill-fated Boeing 787 aircraft, as well as those of 19 people killed

at the B.J. Medical College where the aircraft crashed, will be entitled to a compensation, in addition to those injured.

In October 2023, the Supreme Court issued notices on special leave petitions (SLPs) filed by injured passengers seeking higher compensation following the Kozhikode crash who claimed that they had only been provided a nominal compensation for their losses, which they believed was only an interim settlement. Senior advocate and former Attorney General K.K. Venugopal, representing the petitioners, stated before the court that the injured had entered into agreements with Air India by which they accepted ₹2

lakh or ₹35 lakh, whereas under the Montreal Convention they should have received ₹1.34 crore as a fixed amount. Air India Express had maintained that the complainants could not demand further compensation as they had already entered into an agreement. Of the 190 people aboard the Boeing 737 aircraft, 23 died and several were injured.

Compensations can far exceed the limits laid down under the Montreal Convention as it merely defines airlines' liabilities, which was raised to ₹1,880 Special Drawing Rights (an IMF asset whose value is based on a basket of the world's five leading currencies), or ₹1.87 crore approximately, for death or bodily injury, and is an unlimited amount when there is airline negligence.

The convention or the Indian law that ratifies it — Carriage By Air Act, 1972 — does not regulate how much a passenger can recover, explains Yeshwant Shenoy, president of Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, who helped a family bag the highest compensation of ₹1.5 crore (or ₹7.64 crore and 9% interest for every year there is a delay in payout)

following the Mangalore air crash as per a Supreme Court order on March 3, 2020. Mr. Shenoy was also instrumental in the Mumbai High Court directing Air India to pay a compensation of ₹8 crore to the family of Captain Zlatko Glusica, one of the two pilots who died in the Mangalore crash. An appeal on the matter is pending before the top court.

Judicial precedent

For awarding compensation to air crash victims, Indian courts have relied on the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, which provides the framework for compensation to road accident victims, Mr. Shenoy explains. The Supreme Court order in *Kodkany vs Air India* also refers to judgments in the *National Insurance Company Limited vs Pranay Sethi and Sarfa Versa vs Delhi Transport Corporation* for calculating income and personal expenses for arriving at a compensation.

Under Indian law, the key criteria for determining compensation for families of crash victims is the earning capacity of the deceased. The next two parameters are age of the deceased and the number of dependents.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

DGCA warned Air India Express about delay in fixing Airbus engine

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Aviation watchdog, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express told *Reuters* that it acknowledged the error to DGCA and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures".

Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad which killed all but one of the 242 people aboard.

The engine issue in the Air India Express' Airbus was raised on March 18, months before the crash. But the regulator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

Air India Express is a subsidiary of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Strike by France ATCs leads to flight delays, cancellations

Paris: A strike by French air traffic controllers seeking better working conditions brought chaos at the height of Europe's summer travel season after around 40 per cent of flights to and from Paris were cancelled on Friday.

Disruptions started hitting airports across France on Thursday. These intensified Friday as the national civil aviation authority asked airlines to cancel 40 per cent of flights at Charles de Gaulle, Orly

and Beauvais airports serving Paris, half of flights in Nice and 30 per cent of flights in Marseille, Lyon and some other cities.

The authority warned in a statement that "disruptions and long delays are to be expected at all French airports." Paris airports' departure boards were showing a long list of flight delays and cancellations for destinations across France, Europe, North Africa and beyond. **AP**



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air India Express had got warnings

Reprints

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India's aviation watchdog reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

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lator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

Air India Express is a subsidiary of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group. It has more than 115 aircraft and flies to more than 50 destinations, with 500 daily flights.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency in 2023

Air India Express acknowledged the error and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures"

issued an airworthiness directive to address a "potential unsafe condition" on CFM International LEAP-1A engines, asking for replacement of some components such as engine seals and rotating parts, saying some manufacturing deficiencies had been found.

The agency's directive said "this condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of affected parts, possibly resulting in high energy debris release, with consequent damage to, and reduced control of, the aeroplane."



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

B'luru-Del AI flight delayed as pilot collapses before take-off

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

AN Air India flight from Bengaluru to Delhi was delayed on Friday morning after the pilot collapsed just before take-off. The airline arranged for an alternate pilot and the flight finally took off 90 minutes later.

The incident follows recent concerns raised by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, which pulled up the airline for the pilot roster system.

Flight AI2414 was supposed to take-off by 3 am on July 4 from Terminal 2 of the Kempegowda International Airport. However, a pilot was reported to have fallen seriously ill inside the cockpit just before departure. The

flight took off at 4:36 am, 90 minutes behind schedule, according to a flight tracking website. It landed in Delhi at 7:30 am.

Confirming the incident, the Air India said in a statement, "There was a medical emergency involving one of our pilots in the early hours of July 4. As a result, the pilot was unable to operate the flight AI2414 from Bengaluru to Delhi, that he was rostered for, and was taken to a local hospital immediately. He is stable but continues to be under the supervision of doctors at the same hospital."

A similar incident was reported in August 2023, when an IndiGo pilot collapsed at Nagpur Airport and later died.

'Delayed Airbus engine fix'

The DGCA rapped Air India Express in March about not changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 on time, and forging records, Reuters said. AI Exp falsified records to show compliance with EU safety agency's norms on replacement of engine parts, said Reuters.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

French ATC strike delays, cancels flights

PARIS

A strike by French air traffic controllers seeking better working conditions brought chaos at the height of Europe's summer travel season after around 40% of flights to and from Paris were canceled on Friday.

Disruptions started hitting airports across France on Thursday. These intensified Friday as the national civil aviation authority asked airlines to cancel

40% of flights at Charles de Gaulle, Orly and Beauvais airports serving Paris, half of flights in Nice and 30% of flights in Marseille, Lyon and some other cities.

Despite the preventive cancellations, the authority warned in a statement that disruptions and long delays are to be expected at all French airports. "Paris airports' departure boards were showing a long list of flight delays and cancellations for desti-

nations across France, Europe, North Africa and beyond.

Ryanair was among the airlines that announced widespread disruptions, saying in a statement that it had canceled more than 400 flights affecting 70,000 passengers. The company said the strike affects all its flights over French airspace as well as traffic in and out of French airports, and urged the European Union to reform air traffic rules. *AP*

राज्यों के लिए पृथक विमानन नीति की मांग

नागर विमानन सम्मेलन-2025: सीएम पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने रखे अहम मुद्दा

घाघनिपर समाचार सेवा। देहरादून

मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने मुक्तपुर को देहरादून स्थित एक होटल में आयोजित नागर विमानन सम्मेलन-2025 में प्रतिपादन किया। इस अवसर पर केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री श्री किंजराणु राममोहन नायडू तथा उत्तर भारत के विभिन्न राज्यों के नागर विमानन मंत्रियों का उन्होंने गर्मजोशी से स्वागत किया।

मुख्यमंत्री ने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि यह सम्मेलन प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में देश के नागर विमानन क्षेत्र में हुई ऐतिहासिक प्रगति का परिचायक है। उन्होंने कहा कि 'उड़ान योजना' के माध्यम से देश के छोटे शहरों और दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों को हवाई नेटवर्क से जोड़कर न केवल हवाई याता अगम नागरिकों के लिए सुलभ हुई है, बल्कि इससे स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्थाओं को भी नया कल मिल रहा है।

मुख्यमंत्री धामी ने बताया कि उत्तराखण्ड में वर्तमान में 18 हेलीपैटर्स का निर्माण कार्य जारी है, जिनमें से 12 पर हेली सेवाएं शुरू हो चुकी हैं। उन्होंने इसे पर्वतीय राज्य के



केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री श्री किंजराणु राममोहन नायडू का स्वागत करते सीएम पुष्कर सिंह धामी।

लिए केवल वातावरण सुविधा न मानकर जीवन रेखा बनाना चाहिए। आर्थिक प्रबंधन भी बताना हो, स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं हों या फिर चारपाय जैसी सीमांत गांवों - हेलीकॉप्टर सेवाओं ने इन सभी क्षेत्रों में उल्लेखनीय योगदान दिया है।

मुख्यमंत्री ने सम्मेलन में केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्रालय से यह आग्रह किया कि पर्वतीय राज्यों को निरिष्ट औद्योगिक आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान

में रखते हुए एक पृथक पर्वतीय विमानन नीति तैयार की जाए। इस नीति में विशेष विचार देना, संभालना में सज्जित, पर्वतीय इलाकों के लिए उपयुक्त हेलीकॉप्टर सेवाएं, सटीक मौसम पूर्वानुमान प्रणाली, बेहतर स्टाफिंग और आपदा पूर्व तैयारी जैसे प्राथमिक शामिल किए जाएं।

इसके साथ ही उन्होंने सभी हेली सेवा ऑपरेटरों से भी पर्वतीय उड़ानों के लिए विशेष फायदा प्रस्ताव,

सीएम धामी का खटीमा में भाजपाईयों ने किया भव्य स्वागत

खटीमा। मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी सरकार के संकल्प पूर्वक 4 वर्ष पूर्ण होने पर खटीमा पहुंचने पर जनता और जन प्रतिनिधियों ने झोल नगड़े, धोलिया नृत्य व अतिरिक्तजी के साथ भव्य स्वागत किया। सीएम धामी से मिलने के लिए हेलीपैड पर ही भारी संख्या में लोग इकट्ठा कर रहे थे। सीएम यहां सभी लोगों से मिले। मुख्यमंत्री अपने दो दिवसीय कार्यक्रमानुसार लॉडिया हंड हेलीपैड पहुंचे। हेलीपैड पहुंचने पर सीएम का भव्य स्वागत किया गया। यहां से सीएम सीमा क्षेत्र कार्यालय पहुंचे और यहां पहले से मौजूद अग जनता से और पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं से मिले। इस दौरान उन्हें लोगों ने सरकार के चार वर्ष सफलता पूर्वक



खटीमा में मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी का स्वागत करते भाजपाईयों।

पूर्व करने पर बधाई दी। जनता मिलन के बाद सीएम कैप कार्यालय में बैठे और कार्यकर्ताओं को आवश्यक दिशा निर्देश दिए। सीएम धामी ने सभी को पार्टी हित में काम करने के लिए कहा। धामी ने कहा कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी ही देश दात है जहां हर कार्यकर्ता का सम्मान होता है।

कठोर सुरक्षा मानकों के पालन और व्यक्तियों की सुरक्षा को सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता देने की अपील की।

इस महत्वपूर्ण सम्मेलन में उत्तर प्रदेश के कैबिनेट मंत्री सुरेश कुमार

खन्ना, राजस्थान के मंत्री गौतम कुमार, हरियाणा के मंत्री विपुल चौधरी, उत्तराखण्ड के मुख्य सचिव आनन्द बर्दान शर्मा विभिन्न राज्यों के ज्येष्ठ अधिकारी भी उपस्थित रहे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air Traffic controllers stike disrupts air travel to France

ASSOCIATED PRESS ■ Paris

About 40 per cent of flights were cancelled on Friday at all Paris airports and tens of thousands of passengers were rearranging plans at the height of the summer travel season because of a strike by French air traffic controllers seeking better working conditions.

Disruptions started hitting airports around France on Thursday and intensified on Friday.

The national civil aviation authority asked airlines to cancel 40 per cent of flights Friday at Charles de Gaulle, Orly and Beauvais airports serving Paris, half of flights in Nice and 30 per cent of flights in Marseille,

Lyon and some other cities.

Despite the preventive cancellations, the authority warned in a statement that disruptions and long delays are to be expected at all French airports.

Disruptions started hitting airports around France on Thursday and intensified on Friday

Ryanair was among airlines that announced widespread disruptions, saying in a statement it cancelled more than 400 flights affecting 70,000 passengers.

The company said the strike affects all its flights over French

airspace, as well as traffic in and out of French airports, and urged the European Union to reform air traffic rules.

One of the two unions leading the strike, UNSA-ICNA, said in a statement there are not enough employees to handle surging air travel and that inflation is eating away at salaries.

The unions also are protesting new reform measures aiming to more tightly monitor their work, prompted by a near-collision at the Bordeaux airport.

Transport Minister Philippe Tabarot called the union demands — and their decision to strike just as French schools close for the summer and many families head on vacation — unacceptable.



Corporate Communications Directorate

PUNJAB KESARI

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

फटकार के बाद एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस ने चूक स्वीकारी

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): भारत के एविएशन सेक्टर कागार विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) की कड़ी फटकार के बाद एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस ने शुक्रवार को अपने एयरबस ए320 विमान में इंजन के पुर्जे बदलने में हुई गलती को स्वीकार किया और कहा कि उसने अब इस समस्या को ठीक कर लिया है, साथ ही सुधारात्मक उपाय भी लागू कर दिए हैं। एक बयान में एयरलाइन ने कहा कि यूरोपियन यूनियन एविएशन सेफ्टी एजेंसी (ईएएसए) द्वारा मई 2023 में जारी एक एयरवर्थनेस डायरेक्टिव (एडी) कंपनी की इन्वेंट्री में मौजूद दो इंजनों पर लागू था।

एयरलाइन ने बताया कि एक इंजन में निर्धारित समय सीमा के भीतर आवश्यक परिवर्तन किया गया था, एयरलाइन के मॉनिटरिंग सॉफ्टवेयर में रिकॉर्ड मॉडिफिकेशन समस्या के कारण दूसरे के लिए निर्देश छूट गया था। एयरलाइन ने

- एयरलाइन ने कहा, मॉनिटरिंग सॉफ्टवेयर प्लेटफॉर्म पर रिकॉर्ड के मॉडिफिकेशन के कारण एक इंजन के लिए ट्रिगर मामले में चूक हुई

कहा, मॉनिटरिंग सॉफ्टवेयर प्लेटफॉर्म पर रिकॉर्ड के मॉडिफिकेशन के कारण, तकनीकी टीम एक इंजन के लिए ट्रिगर से चूक गई।

एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस ने अगले कहा कि जैसे ही इसकी पहचान हुई आवश्यक परिवर्तन किए गए और दूसरे इंजन के लिए अनुपालन भी समय सीमा के भीतर पूरा कर लिया गया। बयान में कहा गया, हमने डीजीसीए के समक्ष त्रुटि को स्वीकार किया और तत्काल प्रभाव से सुधारात्मक कार्रवाई और निवारक उपाय किए।



Corporate Communications Directorate

RASHTRIYA SAHARA

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

इंडिगो ने ग्रुप बुकिंग मंच के लिए इन्फिनिटी सॉफ्टवेयर से हाथ मिलाया

मुंबई (भाषा)। विमानन कंपनी इंडिगो ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि उसने 'ग्रुप बुकिंग' के लिए एक उन्नत राजस्व प्रबंधन मंच की तैनाती के लिए यात्रा प्रौद्योगिकी कंपनी इन्फिनिटी सॉफ्टवेयर सॉल्यूशंस के साथ साझेदारी की है। इंडिगो ने कहा कि बुकिंग प्रक्रिया को सरल और सुव्यवस्थित करते हुए अधिक बोझ को संभालने के लिए बनाया गया यह मंच दक्षता में सुधार करता है, प्रतिक्रिया समय को तेज करता है और समूह में यात्रा के अनुरोधों को बेहतर ढंग से संभालता है।

विमानन कंपनी ने कहा कि समूह में यात्रा की बढ़ती मांग को देखते हुए इन्फिनिटी सॉफ्टवेयर सॉल्यूशंस का यह 'क्लाउड-नेटिव' समाधान अब इंडिगो के परिचालन ढांचे में सहज रूप से एकीकृत हो गया है।

इंडिगो के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष अभिजीत दासगुप्ता ने कहा, "इन्फिनिटी के साथ सहयोग और 'ग्रुप आरएम' को अपनाकर हम न केवल अपनी समूह बुकिंग प्रक्रियाओं को सुव्यवस्थित कर रहे हैं।

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Air India denies allegations of forcing AI 171 crash victims' families to disclose financial dependency

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, 4 JULY

Air India has denied allegations from British law firm Stewarts Law that it forced families of the AI 171 crash victims to disclose financial dependency on the deceased to get compensation. Over 40 families represented by Stewarts Law have accused the airline of coercion and intimidation as they pursue claims related to the crash of the London-bound Boeing plane crash at Ahmedabad in which over 241 passengers and crew were killed.

"Air India categorically rejects these allegations and refutes them as both unsubstantiated and inaccurate," the Tata Group airline said in a statement.

The airline clarified that a questionnaire circulated



among certain passengers was intended solely to verify familial relationships, ensuring the rightful distribution of interim payments.

"Understandably, there are some formal processes that must be followed, but we are giving families all the time and flexibility they need. We want to support however we can," Air India said.

"In order to facilitate payments, Air India has sought

basic information to establish family relationships to ensure that the advance payments are received by those entitled to them. Family members have been issued with a questionnaire to allow Air India to gather the information required to process compensation payments. This can be submitted in person at our Facilitation Centre at the Taj Skyline hotel in Ahmedabad, or by e-mail,

and families have been given time and flexibility to complete these.

Air India has certainly not made any unsolicited visits to families' homes," Air India said.

Air India executives said that an interim compensation of Rs 25 lakh has been paid to 47 families, while interim compensation for another 55 families is in process and will be disbursed soon.

UK-based law firm Stewarts, which is representing over 40 bereaved families, has alleged that Air India has been "coercing" families into submitting legally significant financial disclosures before receiving advance compensation.

"This tactic has deeply distressed families already dealing with an immense loss," the firm said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

5 JULY 2025

Centre to set up more ATC systems to prevent air mishaps in Himalayan states

PR SINGH

DEHRADUN, 4 JULY

Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu said on Saturday that Uttarakhand and other Himalayan states will have more air traffic control systems (ATCS) to prevent helicopter mishaps in the region.

He informed that a "world-class study" is being carried out by the Centre to hammer out better ways to ensure air safety in the helicopter services that was marred in Uttarakhand's 2025 chardham pilgrimage.

"Air safety and helicopter operations in Uttarakhand and other Himalayan regions are very difficult owing to weather conditions and harsh terrains. We have received suggestions to set up more ATC Systems in the Himalayas. Setting up ATC Systems in this region is

also challenging due to harsh terrains. However we want that chardham pilgrimage routes in the state should have more ATCS controlled areas. For this we have already started the works" said Naidu after inaugurating the first Ministers' Conference on Civil Aviation (Northern Region) in Dehradun.

The Union Civil Aviation Ministry will have five such regional conclaves in different states to increase air connectivity in the country under its Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) in the coming days.

The Union minister added that the Centre has embarked upon world-class studies on global infrastructural facilities available for preventing air crashes in the hill areas. According to him, the study is being conducted to find better air safety regulatory measures for the Himalayan regions in India as well.

"If there are other requirements like increasing pilots' strength or changes in frequency of helicopter operation, Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) and Union Ministry of Civil Aviation are having detailed discussions on these topics. We will be able to take better air safety measures for improving helicopter services by September when it will be resumed on chardham routes. People from across the world come here. Their safety is our responsibility and we will move forward with it with no compromise attitude."

It may be noted here that helicopter services in Uttarakhand's Chardham Pilgrimage 2025 was marred by frequent mishaps, including two major crashes leading more than dozens of the pilgrims within 40 days of its start. This forced the Central and the state governments to suspend helicopter

services in the ongoing Chardham Yatra till the month of September.

Naidu further informed that 625 RCS routes have been connected under the UDAN scheme across the country in the last nine years and over 1.53 crore passengers have benefited from this scheme. He added that a modified UDAN Scheme is in pipeline to take this benefit to 4 crore more passengers in the next 10 years. The renewed scheme will connect 120 more destinations with domestic air service networks in the country.

India has become a country with the largest aviation services network in the third world in the last 10 years. The first Conference of Ministers for Civil Aviation (Northern Region) being held here will have exhaustive deliberations to strengthen air services in the states of North India.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

4 JULY 2025

IndiGo board

■ **MUMBAI:** Domestic carrier IndiGo parent InterGlobe Aviation on Thursday announced the appointment of former Niti Aayog CEO and India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant as a non-executive director to its board. [en](#)



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

4 JULY 2025

AMC to trim 1K trees near airport after AI crash

Trimming Operations Part Of Broader Safety Measures

Agnesh Parmar
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Ahmedabad: The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation's (AMC) garden department will begin trimming 1,033 trees identified within the take-off and landing corridors of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) Airport, three weeks after the devastating Air India flight F71 crash.

The aircraft crashed over a medical college hostel in Meghansagar on June 12, resulting in 250 deaths. The tragedy prompted immediate safety audits by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), which or-



File photo of the crashed AI 71 on the BJ Medical college campus

dered comprehensive surveys of all obstructions in flight paths.

"The airport management subsequently wrote to us requesting tree trimming opera-

All 1,033 trees will be trimmed strategically to reduce their heights while ensuring minimal environmental impact."

The trimming operation is part of broader safety measures initiated following the crash. The district collector of Ahmedabad, along with AMC and related agencies, launched simultaneous surveys of building heights around the airport perimeter.

AMC sources recall that within days of the AI 71 crash, the district collector announced that a survey of areas surrounding SVPI Airport would be conducted by AMC and Civil Aviation department officials, in accordance with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) guidelines.

► **Continued on P 4**

'Trimming process to ensure tree health'

► **Continued from P1**

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has mandated height verification for all structures within designated funnel zones, cross-referencing existing No Objection Certificates. "Buildings exceeding prescribed height limits may face regulatory action, with violators being compiled into separate lists for enforcement measures," said a senior AMC official.

The official also said that the "tree trimming process would strictly adhere to scientific guidelines, thereby ensuring that trees remained healthy while complying with height restrictions. Meanwhile, the building height survey continues across multiple zones, with preliminary findings expected within weeks.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

4 JULY 2025

Chennai-Patna flight delayed by two hours

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: An IndiGo Airlines flight from Chennai to Patna was delayed by nearly two hours on Thursday, leaving 162 passengers stranded at Chennai airport.

The flight, originally scheduled to depart at 11.40am, finally took off only at 1.33pm.

According to passengers, they had completed the check-in process and were ready to board by 10.30am. However, boarding was halted without prior notice, and no clear reason for the delay was communicated. Several passengers said they repeatedly asked Indigo staff and airport officials for an explanation but were only told that the delay was due to "administrative reasons."

While IndiGo has not issued an official statement, sources said the delay was due to the non-availability of the assigned pilot. However, the airline has not confirmed this and continued to maintain that the delay was administrative in nature. Passengers were finally allowed to board the flight around 1pm, and the aircraft departed at 1.33pm.

Airport arrivals a cash cow for cabs

Cab Drivers Charge An Extra ₹100

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Chennai: Chennai airport authorities have always allowed cabs to pick up senior citizens, pregnant women, new-born mothers, and differently-abled individuals from the arrival terminals without additional cost. Cab drivers, however, charge customers making such requests at least ₹100 more, falsely claiming it to be a fee charged by the



WAITING TO GET FLEECE

parking contractor.

Overcharging customers has become rampant

Overcharging customers has become rampant after the cab pick-up point was shifted to the multi-level car parking lot, which is about 800m away from the T1 terminal, passengers say

after the cab pick-up point was shifted to the multi-level car parking lot, which is about 800m away from the T1 terminal, passengers say. "We were told that the contractor charges an extra ₹100 to reach the terminal. It is shameful to overcharge passengers accompanied by senior citizens and infants," Karthik

Murali, a passenger, posted on X.

Elderly people and those with infants who find it difficult to reach the MLCP (located on a different floor) request cabs to pick them from the terminal. Rahul Shukla of Meenambakkam Realty Pvt Ltd, the contractor managing the parking space at Chennai airport, told TOI the agency does not collect additional charges for such pickups. "We restrict our charges to the prescribed pick-up fees. This is ₹45 per pickup. Cab drivers may demand additional charges directly from customers. We have no role in this," he said.

Chennai airport pre-pa-

id taxi union representatives said their drivers do not indulge in such practices. "Our personnel at the booking counter inform the contractor's men that a vehicle should reach the terminal to pick up elderly passengers. They also share the registration number and the vehicle will be permitted. Cab aggregators may not have such a facility," said a union member.

Airports authority officials said they have received complaints about overcharging. "The parking contractor has been instructed to sensitize the cab drivers not to collect additional charges from passengers," an official said.