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AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

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DECCAN CHRONICLE HYDERABAD 7 DECEMBER 2024

N'bad airport delay: Centre blames TG

**NARENDER
PULLOOR I DC**
NIZAMABAD, DEC.6

Union minister for state for civil aviation Muralidhar Mohol on Friday said in the Lok Sabha that no proposal was received from the Telangana government to set up a greenfield airport at Jakranpally in Nizamabad district.

Replying to a question raised by Nizamabad BJP MP Dharamapuri Arvind in the Lok Sabha, Mohol said that the Airport Authority of India (AAI) had conducted a pre-eligibility study at six places in Telangana state.

Sites for brownfield airports in Warangal, Adilabad and the greenfield airport at Jakranpally in Nizamabad district had been identified, Mohol said. For the new airports, obstacle limitation services (OLS) surveys should be conducted and the consent of Union civil aviation ministry and other regulatory and

statutory bodies must be secured, he said.

"The Airport Authority of India has suggested to the state government to get permissions from the authorities," he said.

Meanwhile, Arvind met Union civil aviation minister K. Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi and inquired over the delay in granting permission for the new airports. If the

state government takes up and completes the OLS survey, the airport works will begin, the MP said. The state government should immediately

react to proposals for the Jakranpally airport, he added. Former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and incumbent Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had neglected the OLS survey, Arvind MP alleged.

He said that TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud, Congress MLAs P. Sudarshan Reddy, R. Bhupathi Reddy should take initiative for the new airport.



AAI chief pushes for completion of Patna airport by Jan. 2025

HT Correspondent

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PATNA: Chairman of the Airports Authority of India (AAI), Vipin Kumar has asked the agencies engaged in the construction of the new terminal building of the Jayaprakash Narayan International airport in Patna to complete the renovation work by January 2025, according to a press release issued on Friday.

Kumar, who on Friday inspected the project, also directed the airport director Uma Shankar to ensure seamless co-ordination with state authorities and regulatory bodies, including the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), for all mandatory approvals required to meet the project deadlines, prior to commissioning of the new terminal.

THIS EXPANSION OF AIRPORT WILL ALSO BOOST THE AIRPORT'S CAPACITY FROM 3 MILLION TO 10 MILLION PASSENGERS ANNUALLY.

Senior officers from the AAI, including Sharad Kumar, member (operations), Anil Kumar Gupta, member (planning), accompanied Kumar during his inspection.

The master plan for the expansion of Patna airport is estimated to cost Rs 1216.90 crore, which includes development of new terminal building, multi-level car parking facility and parking bays.

With a built-up area of 65,155 sqm, the new world-class terminal building will cater to 3,000 passengers during peak hours. This expansion will also boost the airport's capacity from 3 million to 10 million passengers annually. The construction of the new terminal building will include six new additional aircraft parking bays, increasing the number from the present five to 11.

The new terminal is equipped with state-of-the-art passenger facilities, including 54 checks in counters, five passengers boarding bridges, commonly referred to as aerobridges, five conveyor belts, and eight in-line X-ray baggage inspection system machines, which allows for quick transit of passenger inside terminals. The design of this Griha IV- star rated new terminal building is inspired by the Nalanda ruins and the interiors will be adorned with Madhubani paintings.



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STATESMAN

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

AAI Chairman visits Patna Airport Terminal Building



Vipin Kumar, Chairman, Airports Authority of India visited Patna Airport on 6th December 2024, to review the ongoing works of the New Terminal Building. He inspected the entire project thoroughly along with Dr. Sharad Kumar, Member (Operations), AAI; Sh. Anil Kumar Gupta, Member (Planning), AAI and the team of engineers at the site. Chairman, AAI during his review, gave instruction to the agencies and engineers at site to expedite and complete all remaining works, so as to make the airport ready by January 2025.



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AMAR UJALA

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

हवाईअड्डों पर लागू होंगे विश्वस्तरीय सुरक्षा मानक सीआईएसएफ ने आंतरिक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण इकाई की स्थापना की

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल (सीआईएसएफ) ने देशभर के 68 हवाईअड्डों पर तैनात विमानन सुरक्षा समूह (एएसजी) के लिए एक आंतरिक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण इकाई (आईक्यूसीयू) की स्थापना करके विमानन सुरक्षा बढ़ाने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाया है। इसके तहत देश के हवाईअड्डों पर विश्वस्तरीय सुरक्षा मानक लागू होंगे। यह प्रणाली क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना (उड़ान) के तहत आने वाले हवाईअड्डों को भी कवर करेगी।

अधिकारियों ने शनिवार को बताया कि आईक्यूसीयू विश्वस्तरीय सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी की स्थापना में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगा। यह पहल नागरिक उड़्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) की तरफ से जारी राष्ट्रीय



नागरिक उड़्डयन सुरक्षा गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम-2024 (एनसीएसक्यूसीपी) और विमान (सुरक्षा) नियम-2023 का अनुपालन करने के तहत की गई है। सीआईएसएफ के मुताबिक, आईक्यूसीयू एविएशन सिन्डिकेट्री कंट्रोल सेंटर (एएससीसी) का हिस्सा है, जिसका उद्घाटन 22 जुलाई 2023 को केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने किया था। सीआईएसएफ के मुताबिक, नई इकाई उन हवाईअड्डों के लिए

अनुभवी टीम की रहेगी नजर

आईक्यूसीयू का नेतृत्व सीआईएसएफ के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी और प्रमाणित विमानन सुरक्षा प्रशिक्षकों, राष्ट्रीय लेखा परीक्षकों और अनुभवी कर्मियों की एक टीम करेगी। यह मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण में सहायक होगी।

विश्वस्तरीय सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी को स्थापित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगी, जिनका उपयोग हर दिन लाखों घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्री करते हैं। यह नागरिक उड़्डयन सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रशिक्षण में एकरूपता लाएगी और दुनियाभर में उपलब्ध नई तकनीक की सिफारिश करेगी। सीआईएसएफ सुरक्षा इकाइयों और उनके प्रोटोकॉल के आंतरिक ऑडिट की अनुमति देगी। एजेसी



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DESHBANDHU

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट से तीन शहरों के लिए शुरु होंगी उड़ान

कुशीनगर। कुशीनगर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से उड़ान भरने वाले यात्रियों की प्रतीक्षा की घड़ियां समाप्त होने वाली हैं। विमान सेवा कंपनी जेटविंग्स ने अप्रैल 2025 से कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट से तीन शहरों के लिए उड़ान सेवा शुरु करने का एलान किया है। जेटविंग्स कंपनी बीते कई महीनों से कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट से घरेलू उड़ान को लेकर प्रयासरत थी। यह कंपनी पहले चरण में तीन शहरों के लिए एक साथ हवाई सेवा आरंभ करेगी। कुशीनगर से दिल्ली, बोधगया व लखनऊ के लिए कंपनी के 80 सीटर बॉम्बार्डियर क्यू 400 विमान उड़ान भरेंगे।

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

गंगा एक्सप्रेसवे से एयरपोर्ट तक लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे का एलाइन्मेंट जल्द

जागरण सांबाददाता, गेट नोएडा : नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट को गंगा एक्सप्रेसवे से कनेक्टिविटी के लिए लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे का एलाइन्मेंट जल्द फाइनल होगा। उत्तर प्रदेश औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण (यूपीडा) और यमुना प्राधिकरण (यीडा) के अधिकारियों के बीच लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे के एलाइन्मेंट को लेकर दो दौर की वार्ता चुकी है। लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे को फिल्म सिटी के नजदीक यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे से जोड़ने पर सहमति बनी है।

इस पर अंतिम निर्णय यूपीडा के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी एवं मुख्य सचिव मनोज कुमार सिंह व यमुना प्राधिकरण के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी डा. अरुणवीर

68 गांवों से होकर गुजरेंगा लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे

17 गांव गौतमबुद्ध नगर और तीन गांव न्यू नोएडा में हैं



नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट की टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग ●

सिंह की बैठक में होगा।

नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट की कनेक्टिविटी के लिए इसे यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे के अतिरिक्त दिल्ली

मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे से लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे बनाकर जोड़ा जा रहा है। लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे का काम मार्च तक पूरा होने की संभावना है। इसे यमुना

एक्सप्रेसवे व नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से जोड़ने के लिए इंटरचेंज का निर्माण पूरा हो चुका है।

एयरपोर्ट को गंगा एक्सप्रेसवे से जोड़ने के लिए यूपीडा ने लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे का प्रस्ताव तैयार किया था। सर्वे के बाद तैयार एलाइन्मेंट के तहत इसे एयरपोर्ट के नजदीक यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे से जोड़ने की योजना थी, लेकिन यह क्षेत्र एमआरओ के लिए आरक्षित होने के कारण प्राधिकरण ने यूपीडा को एलाइन्मेंट में बदलाव के लिए पत्र लिखने के साथ विकल्प सुझाए थे।

यमुना प्राधिकरण के ओएसडी शैलेंद्र भाटिया ने बताया कि लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे का नया एलाइन्मेंट किया गया है। यूपीडा सीईओ व यीडा

सीईओ की बैठक में इसे अंतिम रूप दिया जाएगा। नए एलाइन्मेंट के तहत सेक्टर 21 में फिल्म सिटी के नजदीक 130 मीटर रोड से जोड़ा जाएगा। इसके जरिये लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे व यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे से जुड़ जाएगा। प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में इसकी लंबाई तकरीबन 20 किमी होगी। लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे गंगा एक्सप्रेसवे के 44 किमी प्वाइंट से शुरू होगा। यह बुलंदशहर और गौतमबुद्ध नगर के 68 गांवों से होकर गुजरेंगा। इसमें 17 गांव गौतमबुद्ध नगर और तीन गांव न्यू नोएडा में हैं। लिंक एक्सप्रेसवे के बनने से नोएडा एयरपोर्ट की कनेक्टिविटी पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश के कई जिलों तक हो जाएगी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा बढ़ाने को इकाई गठित

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। सीआईएसएफ (केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल) ने पूरे देश के 68 हवाई अड्डों पर तैनात विमानन सुरक्षा समूह (एएसजी) के लिए एक आंतरिक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण इकाई (आईक्यूसीयू) की स्थापना की है। इसका मकसद विमानन सुरक्षा को मजबूत करना है। आईक्यूसीयू सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी की स्थापना में अहम भूमिका निभाएगा। यह पहल नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएएस) द्वारा जारी राष्ट्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम-2024 और विमानन सुरक्षा नियम-2023 के तहत किया गया है।

आईक्यूसीयू विमानन सुरक्षा नियंत्रण केंद्र के अपने सभी सहयोगियों जैसे प्रबंधन केंद्र, विमानन अनुसंधान और डेटा केंद्र, केंद्रीकृत संचार नियंत्रण केंद्र के साथ मौजूदा सुरक्षा चुनौतियों और भारतीय हवाई अड्डों की समग्र सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मिलकर काम करेगा।

यह प्रणाली क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना (उड़ान) के अंतर्गत आने वाले हवाई अड्डों को भी कवर

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर सोना पकड़ा

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-3 पर जांच के दौरान 72.72 लाख रुपये का सोना पकड़ा गया है। सूचना के आधार पर कस्टम विभाग की टीम ने एक यात्री की जांच के दौरान उसके पास से 999 ग्राम सोना बरामद किया है। इंटेलेजेंस यूनिट को सूचना मिली थी कि एक यात्री सोना लेकर आ रहा है। सूचना के आधार पर टी-3 से आने वाले यात्रियों की जांच की जा रही थी, उसी समय एक यात्री के बैग में पीले रंग का सामान दिखा। जांच में पता चला कि वह सोना है, जो कि विदेश से लाया गया है। मामले की जांच की जा रही है। ज्ञात हो कि आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर विदेश से सोने की तस्करी मामले में कई लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है।

करेगी। इसके तहत मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण और मूल्यांकन विधियों के माध्यम से सभी हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं में एकरूपता सुनिश्चित करना है। इस पहल से देश के हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा व्यवस्था में व्यापक सुधार देखने को मिलेगा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

CISF launches quality control unit to improve aviation security at airports

NARESH BISWANI

NEW DELHI: In a step to raise safety levels in aviation, CISF set up an Internal Quality Control Unit (IQCUP) to monitor and heighten security standards at all of India's 68 airports.

The IQCUP is an integrated part of the Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on July 22, 2023. The ASCC will be equipped with state-of-the-art com-

ponents such as the Incident Management Centre, Aviation Research and Data Centre, and Centralised Communication Control Centre, which will closely work with the IQCUP to overcome emerging security challenges and develop the overall security infrastructure at Indian airports. Importantly, this system will also extend its coverage to airports under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAAN), ensuring comprehensive security across the aviation sector.

The IQCUP will be headed by the senior CISF officer, which will comprise the national auditors and field-experienced personnel along with the certified AVSEC trainers. The specialised team will focus on ensuring standardisation of security operations, conducting internal audits with the recommendation of technological upgradation based on international best practice and field trials. It shall also monitor, review, as well as update security procedures relating to guidelines issued by

the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), BCAS, and NCASQCP.

More enhanced performance efficiency will come through evaluating feedback from ASGs set up at the airports themselves, identifying and closing down operational gaps through corrective steps. Maintaining high levels of quality control will seek to achieve consistency in practices and enhance overall performance along with increased use of technological services.

CISF ने हवाई अड्डों पर स्थापित की इंटरनल क्वालिटी कंट्रोल यूनिट

नई दिल्ली, 7 दिसम्बर(नवोदय टाइम्स): सीआईएसएफ ने देश के 68 हवाई अड्डों पर नैनात विमानन सुरक्षा समूह (एएसजी) के लिए इंटरनल क्वालिटी कंट्रोल यूनिट (आईक्यूसीयू) की स्थापना की है। विमानन

(सुरक्षा) नियम-2023 के अनुपालन में की गई है। उनके अनुसार आईक्यूसीयू विमानन सुरक्षा नियंत्रण केंद्र (एएससीसी) का हिस्सा

केंद्र, केंद्रीकृत संचार नियंत्रण केंद्र के साथ मौजूदा सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का सामना करने और भारतीय हवाई अड्डों की समग्र सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित

सीआईएसएफ के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी और प्रमाणित विमानन सुरक्षा प्रशिक्षकों, राष्ट्रीय लेखा परीक्षकों और अनुभवी कर्मियों की एक टीम द्वारा किया जाएगा।

इंटरनल क्वालिटी कंट्रोल यूनिट स्थापित होने से मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण और मूल्यांकन विधियों के माध्यम से सभी हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं में एकरूपता सुनिश्चित होगी। क्षेत्र परीक्षणों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सर्वोत्तम प्रथाओं के आधार पर नई तकनीकों को अपनाने में आसानी होगी। इसके तहत सुरक्षा संचालन का मूल्यांकन करने और सुधारात्मक उपायों को लागू करने के लिए दिशानिर्देशों के आधार पर आंतरिक निरीक्षण और लेखा परीक्षा आयोजित की जाएंगी। स्थापित मानकों को पूरा करने के लिए सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल की निगरानी, समीक्षा, अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करना, प्रौद्योगिकी प्रभावशीलता और परिचालन दक्षता स्थापित करने के अलावा प्रतिक्रिया विश्लेषण कमियों की पहचान करने और प्रदर्शन में भी इससे सुधार आएगा।

देश के 68 हवाई अड्डों पर विश्व स्तरीय विमानन सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की पहल

सुरक्षा को सुदृढ़ करने की दिशा में इसे एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम बताया जा रहा है। आईक्यूसीयू विश्व स्तरीय सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी की स्थापना में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगा।

सीआईएसएफ के डीआईजी दीपक वर्मा ने बताया कि यह पहल नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) द्वारा जारी राष्ट्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम-2024 (एनसीएएसक्यूसीपी) और विमान



होगा जिसका उद्घाटन केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने 22 जुलाई, 2023 को किया था। एएससीसी अपने उन्नत घटकों जैसे घटना प्रबंधन केंद्र, विमानन अनुसंधान और डेटा

करने के लिए आईक्यूसीयू के साथ मिलकर काम करेगा। यह प्रणाली क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना (उड़ान) के अंतर्गत आने वाले हवाई अड्डों को भी कवर करेगी। आईक्यूसीयू का नेतृत्व



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AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

PUNJAB KESARI

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

देश के हवाई अड्डों की सुरक्षा के लिए सीआईएसएफ ने बनाई स्पेशल यूनिट

देश के सभी 68 नागरिक हवाई अड्डों की निगरानी बढ़ाई जाएगी

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल (सीआईएसएफ) ने देश के सभी 68 नागरिक हवाई अड्डों पर तैनात विमानन सुरक्षा समूह (एएसजी) के लिए एक आंतरिक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण इकाई (आईक्यूसीयू) बनाई है। इस इकाई का मकसद विश्व स्तरीय सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं और प्रौद्योगिकी को स्थापना में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाना है।

सीआईएसएफ के अनुसार, आईक्यूसीयू विमानन सुरक्षा नियंत्रण केंद्र (एएससीसी) के अंतर्गत कार्य करेगा। एएससीसी को भी हाल ही में शुरू किया गया है। इसका उद्घाटन 22 जुलाई, 2023 को गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने किया था। एएससीसी मौजूदा सुरक्षा चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए आईक्यूसीयू के साथ मिलकर काम करेगा और घटना प्रबंधन केंद्र, विमानन अनुसंधान और डेटा केंद्र, केंद्रीकृत संचार नियंत्रण केंद्र के साथ भारतीय हवाई अड्डों की समग्र सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करेगा। यह प्रणाली क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना (उड़ान) के तहत हवाई अड्डों को भी कवर करेगी। आईक्यूसीयू का नेतृत्व वरिष्ठ सीआईएसएफ अधिकारी



● विमानन सुरक्षा नियंत्रण केंद्र के अंतर्गत कार्य करेगी यूनिट

करेंगे और इसमें प्रमाणित विमानन सुरक्षा (एवीएसईसी) प्रशिक्षक, राष्ट्रीय लेखा परीक्षक और इसके कर्मचारी शामिल होंगे। वे मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण और मूल्यांकन विधियों, फील्ड ट्रायल और अंतरराष्ट्रीय नई तकनीकों को अपनाने के माध्यम से हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं में एकरूपता सुनिश्चित करेंगे। आईक्यूसीयू सुरक्षा कार्यों का मूल्यांकन करने और सुधारत्मक उपायों को लागू करने के लिए विभिन्न दिशानिर्देशों के आधार पर आंतरिक निरीक्षण और ऑडिट करेगा। जिससे

हवाई अड्डों की खामियों को दूर कर उसे सुधारने में मदद मिलेगी। साथ ही अंतरराष्ट्रीय नागरिक विमानन संगठन के मानकों को ध्यान में रख सभी जगह से फीडबैक ले उसका विश्लेषण किया जाएगा।

इस सिस्टम को रीजनल कनेक्टिविटी स्क्रीम के तहत आने वाले एयरपोर्ट पर भी समान रूप से लागू किया जाएगा।

इससे पहले, अर्धसैनिक बल के एक प्रवक्ता ने शनिवार को जानकारी दी थी कि आंतरिक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण इकाई (आईक्यूसीयू) हवाई अड्डों पर उच्चतम स्तर की प्रक्रियाओं और तकनीकों को स्थापित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगी। इन हवाई अड्डों पर हर दिन लाखों घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्री यात्रा के लिए आते हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि यह पहल सीआईएसएफ द्वारा राष्ट्रीय नागरिक विमानन सुरक्षा गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण कार्यक्रम 2024 के तहत की जा रही है। यह कार्यक्रम नागरिक विमानन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो और विमान (सुरक्षा) नियम, 2023 के तहत जारी किया गया था।



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Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

कुशीनगर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से तीन शहरों के लिए शुरू होंगी उड़ान

कुशीनगर @ पत्रिका. उत्तर प्रदेश के कुशीनगर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से उड़ान भरने वाले यात्रियों की प्रतीक्षा की घड़ियां समाप्त होने वाली हैं। विमान सेवा कंपनी जेटविंग्स ने अप्रैल 2025 से कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट से तीन शहरों के लिए उड़ान सेवा शुरू करने का एलान किया है। जेटविंग्स कंपनी बीते कई महीनों से कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट से घरेलू उड़ान को लेकर प्रयासरत थी। यह कंपनी पहले चर ण में तीन शहरों के लिए एक साथ हवाई सेवा आरंभ करेगी। कुशीनगर से दिल्ली, बोधगया व लखनऊ के लिए कंपनी के 80 सीटर बॉम्बार्डियर क्यू 400 विमान उड़ान भरेंगे। कंपनी ने एक सप्ताह के अंदर शिड्यूल जारी कर देने का एलान किया है। इसके पूर्व कंपनी को कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट पर उड़ान के लिए मानव संसाधन के सभी कार्य पूरा कर लेने के निर्देश मिले हैं। जिसके तहत कंपनी को कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट पर अपने कर्मचारियों की तैनाती से लेकर अन्य सभी प्रकार के कार्य पूरा कर लेने होंगे। इसकी समय सारणी एक सप्ताह के भीतर जारी हो जाएगी। अप्रैल से पहले कंपनी यहां अपने कार्यालय, काउंटर आदि व मानव संसाधन की व्यवस्था पूरी कर लेगी। कंपनी को उड़ान की अनुमति आरसीएस के तहत मिली है। जेटविंग्स के अधिकारियों ने बीते माह कुशीनगर एयरपोर्ट का दौरा कर संसाधनों की स्थिति परखी थी।



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TIMES OF INDIA BANGALORE 7 DECEMBER 2024

Crispy peach takes on new high: ganja worth ₹1.2cr seized at KIA

Nithya.Mandiyam
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Bengaluru: The unassuming “crispy peach” snack packets were the centrepiece of a major drug bust at Kempegowda International Airport when customs officials opened them to find 12.5kg of high-quality hydroponic ganja worth over Rs 1.2 crore.

In a 24-hour operation, three Indian passengers arriving from Bangkok on two IndiGo and one Thai Airways flights were caught with the contraband cleverly concealed in snack packets, labelled “coconut crisps” and “crispy peach”.

Acting on passenger profiling, officials detained the suspects and carried out extensive inspections. “While the three individuals are not linked to each other, the iden-



NOT SNACKABLE: Customs officials found 12.5kg of high-quality hydroponic ganja

tical modus operandi suggests a common supplier,” an airport source said.

The first seizure occurred on the night of Nov 30, when a passenger on an IndiGo flight was found carrying 4kg of ganja in snack packets. Hours later, another passenger from a different IndiGo flight was caught with

6kg of ganja. The next morning, a third individual arriving on a Thai Airways flight was apprehended with 2.5kg.

The seized ganja, termed hydroponic, is grown in water-based labs with added nutrients, making it a high-quality and expensive product, valued at Rs 10 lakh per kg. Authorities are yet to determine whether the drugs were intended for distribution within Bengaluru or other destinations. “In such cases, accomplices usually wait outside the airport to collect packages for distribution,” the source added.

The three passengers were booked under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and remanded in judicial custody for 15 days. Probe is on to identify the supplier and dismantle the network.



Corporate Communications Directorate

TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

7 DECEMBER 2024

FIRs filed as Mumbai int'l airport receives 2 hoax bomb threats in 4 days

Mumbai: In two separate cases recently, the Mumbai international airport received bomb threats which were later found to be hoax. Sahar Police have registered two separate FIRs.

In the first case on Nov 30, a phone call was received at a helpline run by the airport contact centre of joint control. The caller spoke in Hindi. After ensuring that he had the female assistant manager's attention, he said there was a time bomb. He disconnected the call without providing any details. The information was immediately conveyed to various security departments of MIAL (Mumbai International Airport Ltd). In a meeting taken at 5.20pm, it was concluded that the threat was non-specific in nature. An offence was registered by Sahar Police.

The second incident was reported on Dec 3. MIAL's quality and customer experience section received an email which said, "Us KNR will bomb your airport." The mail further said, "We have people with bombs on your planes; the bombs will go off in an hour." An offence was again registered by the Sahar Police. 7/11



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THE TRIBUNE

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

CISF sets up body to add new tech, standardise procedures at airports

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 7

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) – tasked with securing airports in India – has incorporated a new body that will look at latest technology and have standardised procedures across all 68 airports of the country.

The CISF said that the new Internal Quality Control Unit (IQCUC) has been set up for CISF's Aviation Security Group (ASG) that is deployed at 68 airports across India. It will play a crucial role in establishing world-class security procedures and technology.

This initiative is in compliance with the National Civil Aviation Security Quality Control Programme-2024, which was issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Aircraft Security Rules-2023.



CISF personnel examine luggage at the airport in Ranchi. FILE PHOTO

The IQCUC shall be a part of the Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC), which was inaugurated by Home Minister Amit Shah on July 22 last year.

The ASCC, with its advanced components like incident management centre, Aviation Research and Data Centre, and centralised communica-

tion control centre, will work in tandem with the IQCUC to meet the current challenges and enhance the overall security of Indian airports.

This system will also cover airports under Regional Connectivity Scheme (UDAAN). The IQCUC will be led by a senior CISF officer and a team of certified aviation security instructors, national auditors and experienced personnel.

It will standardise procedures to ensure uniformity in security procedures across all airports through training and evaluation methods. It will also recommend the adoption of new technologies based on field trials and best global practices.

The body will further conduct internal inspections and audits based on guidelines to evaluate security operations and implement corrective measures. It will monitor, review and update security protocols to meet established standards, and ensure compliance, technology effectiveness and operational efficiency.

Murmu lays foundation stones for 3 rail lines, airport in Odisha

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 7

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday laid the foundation stones for several infrastructure projects in Odisha, including three rail lines — Bangiriposi-Gorumahisani, Burama-Chakulia and Badampahar-Kendujhargarh — the Tribal Research and Development Centre, Dandbose Airport, and a new building for the sub-divisional hospital in Rairangpur.

Murmu said, "I have always been proud to be a daughter of this land. Despite my responsibilities and busy schedules, I have never been distanced from my birthplace or its people. The love of the people here continues to draw me towards them and my thoughts and work are always with my motherland."

Highlighted the significance of the projects for the region, the President said, "I am confident that these rail



Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw presents a memento to President Droupadi Murmu in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. PTI

projects and the airport will boost transportation, business and trade in the region. The new hospital building, with a 100-bed facility, will provide improved health services to the local community."

She further announced that more than 100 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools are being set up across Odisha, including 23 in Mayurbhanj district.

"These schools will provide quality education to tribal children, and I am confident that they will contribute significantly to the progress of society and the nation once they are educated," the President said. She also stressed that Odisha was benefiting from the government's Purvodaya vision, which aims to accelerate the development of Eastern India



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AMAR UJALA

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

इंडिगो को कोर्ट में चुनौती देगी महिंद्रा, नहीं छोड़ेगी बीई6ई ब्रांड पर अपना हक

नई दिल्ली। महिंद्रा ने शनिवार को कहा कि वह इंडिगो के खिलाफ बीई6ई के ब्रांड अधिकारों को अदालत में चुनौती देगी। इस बीच, ऑटोमेकर अपनी इलेक्ट्रिक ओरिजिन एसयूवी का नाम बीई6 रखेगा। दरअसल, महिंद्रा ने अपनी नई इलेक्ट्रिक एसयूवी बीई 6ई लॉन्च की है। यह उसके बॉन इलेक्ट्रिक लाइनअप का हिस्सा है। इस पर इंडिगो की मूल कंपनी इंटरग्लोब एविएशन ने एतराज

इंडिगो ने कहा, 6ई
उनके एयरलाइन कोड
लोगों में पैदा होगा भ्रम

जताया है। उनका कहना है कि बीई 6ई का नाम उनके एयरलाइन कोड 6ई से मिलता-जुलता है।

इंडिगो का कहना है कि 6ई को उनके एयरलाइन कोड के रूप में पहचान है और महिंद्रा के बीई 6ई नाम से भ्रम पैदा हो सकता है। इस पर महिंद्रा का कहना है कि ऐसा कोई भ्रम नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि उनका ब्रांड बीई 6ई है, सिर्फ 6ई नहीं। महिंद्रा का यह भी कहना है कि उनकी कंपनी और इंडिगो अलग-अलग उद्योगों में काम करती हैं। महिंद्रा गाड़ियां बनाती है, जबकि इंडिगो एक एयरलाइन है। यही नहीं बीई 6ई का डिजाइन और स्टाइल बिलकुल अलग है। एजेसी



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DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

टाटा एयरलाइंस पर लगाया 10 हजार रुपये का जुर्माना

जासं, नई दिल्ली: एक यात्री के सामान को नुकसान पहुंचाने के लिए दिल्ली जिला उपभोक्ता विवाद निवारण आयोग ने टाटा एयरलाइंस को जिम्मेदार ठहराया है। आयोग की चेयरमैन मोनिका ए.श्रीवास्तव और सदस्य किरण कौशल की पीठ ने शिकायतकर्ता को हुई क्षति और मानसिक तनाव के लिए एयरलाइंस को 10 हजार रुपये का भुगतान करने का आदेश दिया है। आयोग ने शिकायतकर्ता की तरफ से पेश किए गए टूटे हुए बैग की तस्वीरों को देखने के बाद पाया कि सामान क्षतिग्रस्त होने के बाद भी एयरलाइंस की तरफ से न तो कोई मुआवजा प्रदान किया गया और न ही कोई कार्रवाई की गई। आयोग ने कहा कि एयरलाइंस शिकायतकर्ता को सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है। एयरलाइंस को 10 हजार रुपये देने का आदेश दिया। शिकायतकर्ता ने आरोप लगाया था कि 25 फरवरी 2023 को उसने दिल्ली से मुंबई के लिए उड़ान बुक की। उसके पास एक बैग था और ओवरहेड केबिन में बैग रखने की जगह नहीं बची थी। स्टाफ ने बैग चेक-इन बैगेज में देने का अनुरोध किया।

Corporate Communications Directorate

FINANCIAL EXPRESS DELHI 8 DECEMBER 2024

Air turbulence from a storm can start earlier than you expect

This is your captain speaking: You may need to buckle those seatbelts a lot sooner than you're used to

KATHERINE KORNEI

RATTLED NERVES AND spilled drinks are the most common outcomes of a choppy flight, but intense air turbulence can also cause bodily harm. And while one well-known cause of air turbulence is thunderstorms, it's poorly understood how far from a tempest shaky conditions are likely to persist. To answer that question, researchers recently analysed millions of measurements of air turbulence collected by commercial aircraft. The team found that a heightened risk of a jarring flight extended more than 55 miles away from a thunderstorm, which is roughly three times the storm-avoidance dis-

tance currently recommended by the Federal Aviation Administration. These findings, published this month in *The Bulletin* of the American Meteorological Society, could inform new guidelines for storm avoidance, the researchers suggest. Pilots and dispatch crews on the ground have long kept an eye trained on the weather. "The links between meteorology and aviation go way, way back," said Stacey Hitchcock, an atmospheric scientist at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Thunderstorms are of particular concern to pilots. "You get really rapid changes in vertical and horizontal motion over short distances," Hitchcock said. Those chaotic motions - which can also be caused by jet stream winds and air moving around obstacles like mountains - can cause aircraft to go up and down, creating the tumultuous sensation that's all too familiar to many fliers.

In the past, daredevil pilots played a key role in revealing how aircraft experience turbulence near thunderstorms: A fleet of five P-61C Black Widow aircraft repeatedly flew through thunderstorms



above Florida and Ohio in the 1940s. "No storm was to be avoided because it appeared too large or too violent," a senior analyst for that endeavour, the Thunderstorm Project, later said at a meeting of

the National Weather Association. Today, however, scientists have access to troves of air turbulence data. "Almost all commercial aircraft now are collecting some form of turbulence data," said Todd Lane,

an atmospheric scientist at the University of Melbourne in Australia who was involved in the new research. Hitchcock and her collaborators analysed roughly 200 million such measurements made over United States airspace from 2009 to 2017. The team focused on the eddy dissipation rate, a metric related to the vertical acceleration experienced by a plane and its occupants.

Next, the team mined archival radar data to calculate the locations of thunderstorms. By comparing the positions of airplanes and thunderstorms in three-dimensional space, the researchers determined how the relative risk of experiencing light, moderate and severe turbulence changed based on the distance from a thunderstorm.

As expected, Hitchcock and her colleagues found that turbulence was much more likely when an airplane was near a thunderstorm. Flying within about three miles of a thunderstorm increased a flight's risk of experiencing severe turbulence by nearly a factor of 20, the team determined. However, severe turbulence is also exceedingly rare: A plane would

have to fly for seven days straight just to experience one minute of it, on average.

And the sphere of influence of a thunderstorm extended to significant distances, the researchers showed. "You can even go as far as 50, 60, 70 kilometres from a storm and still have double the risk of turbulence," Lane said. Overall, the team found that the risk of experiencing light, moderate or severe turbulence remained above background levels up to 55 miles away from a thunderstorm.

Current FAA guidelines for storm avoidance dictate that pilots maintain a horizontal distance of at least 20 miles away from a thunderstorm. The new findings could play a role in the revision of those guidelines. "I am having conversations with folks at the FAA," Hitchcock said. But giving storms a wider berth would mean more rerouting of aircraft, which is no small feat in crowded airspace, said Mohamed Foudad, a turbulence researcher at the University of Reading in England who was not involved in the research. "It will be complicated to put more restrictions on these guidelines." —NYT

SpiceJet to hold AGM on Dec 30



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, December 7

SPICEJET WILL HOLD its annual general meeting for the 2023-24 financial year on December 30.

At the meeting, the airline will seek shareholders' approval for increasing the authorised share capital to infuse fresh share capital, according to a regulatory filing on Saturday.

Approvals will also be sought for the re-appointment of Ajay Singh as a director, appointment of Sonum Gayatri Malhotra as an independent director and for adopting audited financial statements for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

The meeting will be held on December 30.

Currently, the company's authorised share capital is ₹15,000,000,000.



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HINDUSTAN TIMES MUMBAI 7 DECEMBER 2024

Airlines prep to minimise delays ahead of foggy days

Daanish Anand

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NEW DELHI: Passengers travelling through India's airports during the challenging fog season can expect improved operations this year as airlines and airports prepare early to minimise delays and cancellations, according to two people aware of the matter.

While airlines such as IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet have stationed their category-III or CAT III-enabled aircraft which can operate in low visibility in northern India, Delhi airport has chalked out plans to improve

passenger experience during flight disruptions.

Passengers on flights that see delays of over three hours will be deboarded, addressing one of the biggest frustrations of passengers stuck in delayed aircraft. In April, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) had asked airlines, airports and security agencies to return passengers to the terminal in case of long delays. Every year, from December to February, thousands of flights are impacted by fog. In January 2024 alone, over 400 flights were delayed, with many being cancelled or diverted due to dense fog.

DELHI AIRPORT HAS CHALKED OUT PLANS TO IMPROVE PASSENGER EXPERIENCE DURING FLIGHT DISRUPTIONS

On November 29, aviation minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu reviewed the situation and directed officials to ensure real-time coordination between air traffic control, airlines, ground handlers and airport operators to maintain seamless

operations. They were directed to cancel flights if the delay exceeds three hours, and proactively inform passengers about potential delays or cancellations. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) established the period between 10 December and 10 February as the fog window. During this period, airlines are mandated to deploy pilots and aircraft trained in Category III (CAT-III) instrument landing systems (ILS), especially at airports in North India. These trained pilots can safely land aircraft in low-visibility conditions, which can range from zero visibility to 175 meters.

Only six airports in India have CAT-III ILS; Delhi, Lucknow, Jaipur, Amritsar, Bengaluru, and Kolkata. Delhi Airport, the largest in the country, has four operational runways, three of which are CAT-III landing compliant.

India's largest airline in terms of fleet size and market share, IndiGo, said that it has taken several measures to mitigate fog-related disruptions. "The airline also said that the team of meteorologists are also in close coordination with Operations Control Center actively monitor real-time visibility," an IndiGo executive said on the condition of anonymity.

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

7 DECEMBER 2024

{ **MY INDIA** } NOSE GEAR JAMMED

Bihar gov switches airline after glitch



Bihar governor Rajendra Arlekar was forced to switch to a different flight after the nose gear of the IndiGo flight he was on board, from Goa to Delhi, jammed. The incident took place on Friday afternoon, when flight no. 6E 6193 had pushed back and started to taxi. An airport official said that Arlekar, who was accompanied by this team, chose to fly an Air india flight which was immediately available. "The airline [IndiGo] did not offer water or food," a passenger said. HT reached out to IndiGo, which did not respond to queries.

HTC

Airlines prep to minimise delays ahead of foggy days

Daanish Anand

daanish.anand@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Passengers traveling through India's airports during the challenging fog season can expect improved operations this year as airlines and airports prepare early to minimise delays and cancellations, according to two people aware of the matter.

While airlines such as IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet have stationed their category-III or CAT III-enabled aircraft which can operate in low visibility along with their crews in northern India, Delhi airport has chalked out plans to improve passenger experience during flight disruptions.

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Every year, from Dec to Feb, a number of flights are impacted by fog in north India. PTI

real-time coordination between air traffic control, airlines, ground handlers and airport operators to maintain seamless operations. Airlines were directed to cancel flights if the delay exceeds three hours, and proactively inform passengers about potential delays or cancellations.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) established the period between 10 December and 10 February as the fog window. During this period, airlines are mandated to deploy pilots and aircraft trained in Category III (CAT-III) instrument landing systems (ILS), especially at airports in North India. These trained pilots can safely land aircraft in low-visibility conditions, which can range from zero visibility to 175 meters.

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India's largest airline in terms of fleet size and market share, IndiGo, said the airline has taken several measures to mitigate fog-related disruptions. "Most of IndiGo's aircraft fleet are equipped with CAT-III landing equipment and around 80-90% of IndiGo's pilots are qualified to do CAT-III landings. The airline also said that the team of meteorologists are also in close coordination with Operations Control Center actively monitor real-time visibility," an IndiGo executive said on the condition of anonymity.

The airline has also studied historical data and will ensure that aircraft flying to fog-prone sectors will keep additional fuel, keeping in mind anticipated delays, the person added.

Air India has also started taking steps to minimize the impact on its flights due to fog. "Air India will be adjusting flight schedules to its long-haul and metro-to-metro flights routes in fog prone areas. The airline is also planning to keep passengers informed of any delays and provide them with a complimentary option of rescheduling or refund," an airline executive said on the condition of anonymity.

New norms for pilots can be implemented from July next year, DGCA tells Delhi HC

Jagriti Chandra
Soibam Rocky Singh
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) informed the Delhi High Court on Friday that the new norms providing enhanced weekly rest and reduced night-time flying for pilots to help them combat rising fatigue levels could only be implemented from July 2025 in a phased manner.

The rules, notified by the DGCA in January 2024, increased weekly rest for pilots from 36 hours to 48 hours as well as reduced their night-time flying. They were to be implemented from June 2024, but following opposition from airlines, the regulator put the rules in abeyance on March 26.

While hearing a writ petition filed by the Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP),



The rules were notified in January this year but kept in abeyance following opposition.

the Indian Pilots' Guild, and the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association, Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju asked why the rules could not be implemented sooner. The court told the DGCA to hold another round of meeting with Air India and pilot bodies on December 18 to reach a consensus on the timeline of implementation. Two such mediation meetings have already taken place where Air India is learnt to

have pressed for wider industry consultations as well as indicated that the new norms could result in reduced salaries for pilots who operate narrow-body planes, because of a reduction in flying hours. The next hearing is on January 23.

"It is the considered view of the regulator, along with the Ministry, that to make it seamless and to address operational constraints, the readiness of the pilots, training and on-boarding [of new pilots], software integration, [the implementation of the new rules] will require a phased implementation," Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the DGCA, said.

Counsel for the DGCA said interests on all sides needed to be balanced, including those of passengers and the aviation sector.

After IndiGo suit, M&M switches new e-SUV brand



Brand war: The automaker, however, said it has decided to contest the brand right over BE 6e in a court. BIJOY GHOSH

Lalatendu Mishra

MUMBAI

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) said it was changing the brand name of its electric-origin SUV to BE 6 from BE 6e to avoid delays in product introduction owing to legal challenges by InterGlobe Aviation Ltd. (IndiGo) which could drag on for years.

But M&M has decided to contest the brand right of BE 6e in court. After M&M unveiled electric origin SUVs, the BE 6e and XEV 9e, on November 26, InterGlobe Aviation, which has the call sign 6E, filed a law suit to prevent M&M from using the brand 6e.

“Mahindra’s mark is “BE 6e” not standalone “6E”. We believe it differs fundamentally from IndiGo’s “6E,” representing an airline,” M&M said.

“Our registration application is for an entirely different industry sector and product and hence, do not see any conflict.

“In fact, we would like to point out in the past, Tata Motors had objected to

InterGlobe using the IndiGo mark, given their Tata Indigo car brand. InterGlobe continues to use the mark IndiGo in a different industry and business. We therefore find their objection to BE 6e to be inconsistent with their own previous conduct,” M&M said.

Stating its priority and focus were on ensuring an excellent experience for its customers as it takes its product to the market, it said, “We would not like to get distracted from our vision of popularising electric transport in India.”

“We also find it unseemly that two large, Indian multinationals should engage in a distracting and unnecessary conflict when, in fact, we should be championing each other’s growth and expansion,” M&M said.

“We, however, do believe the claim by IndiGo is baseless and if not challenged, will set an unhealthy precedent. We will continue to strongly contest this in court and reserve our right to the brand name BE 6e,” it said.

SUBDUED JET FUEL PRICES ALSO HAVE LED TO A DOWNWARD PRESSURE

Weak demand growth, airline capacity addition keeping airfares in check

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 7

GROWTH IN airline seat capacity, an evident moderation in demand growth from the high pent-up demand levels seen in the couple of years following the COVID-19 pandemic, and relatively subdued jet fuel prices have led to a downward pressure on airfares, according to aviation industry insiders and ticketing data. This has meant that domestic airfares have generally not risen notably and, in fact, have seen a reduction or are broadly stable for a large number of domestic routes when compared to last year.

Airfare data from travel booking portal Ixigo for December travel on 32 popular routes—a mix of major metro-to-metro trunk routes and some other popular leisure routes—shows that airfares have either declined or are stable vis-à-vis the last month of 2023 in a majority of the cases. The data is for advance bookings made 15 to 30 days before travel.

Average one-way airfares on 20 of the 32 routes have declined with the fall varying widely between 1 per cent and 32 per cent. As for the 12 routes that have seen higher fares, the rise is between 1 per cent and 2 per cent for five routes, and between 8 per cent and 27 per cent for the remaining seven, per the data from Ixigo.

Among the 32 routes, the highest drop was observed for the Chennai-Kolkata route with average one-way airfare down by 32 per cent year-on-year to Rs 5,688.

FLIGHT FARE TRENDS IN DECEMBER 2024



Origin	Destination	One way average*	Increase/decrease**
Bengaluru	New Delhi	7,187	▼7%
New Delhi	Bengaluru	7,227	▼3%
New Delhi	Kolkata	6,205	▼16%
Pune	New Delhi	5,267	▼16%
Bengaluru	Kolkata	6,015	▼18%
Chennai	New Delhi	6,436	▼4%
Mumbai	New Delhi	6,005	▲2%
Bengaluru	Mumbai	5,067	▲2%
Bengaluru	Jaipur	8,607	▲14%
New Delhi	Jaipur	3,273	▲27%

*fare in December 2024 (In Rs) (Advance booking period: 15-30 days)
**Increase/decrease (YoY) Source: Ixigo

On the other hand, the highest increase was on the Delhi-Jaipur route with the average fare higher by 27 per cent at Rs 3,273.

To be sure, airfares depend on the demand and supply dynamics on the individual route level, which could throw up exceptions to the general trend. For instance, there may be cases where demand outstrips seat supply significantly, leading to a jump in fares, even as the broader trend points to stable or lower fares.

The other key factor to consider is the advance booking period. While it is a general rule of the thumb to book flights as early

as possible in order to pay less, there may be exceptions to this rule as well. In cases where demand is strong and load factors healthy, fares could be higher closer to the travel date. However, there may be cases where ticket prices fall substantially just before the travel date if the expected passenger load is weak. Air traffic disruptions leading to long delays and cancellations, including those related to weather, also tend to bump up spot or eleventh hour fares.

According to airline executives, there are clear indications that the supernormal rate of de-

mand growth that the industry had witnessed over in 2022 and 2023 have started to normalise, even as major Indian carriers—IndiGo and Air India group airlines—continue to add capacity with multiple new aircraft being inducted each month. Aircraft groundings due to engine issues and supply chain woes have also started declining in the recent months, leading to more airline seats being available for sale.

Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices, too, have cooled off from higher levels seen last year. ATF usually accounts for 35 to 40 per cent of Indian airlines' operational expenses. For instance, ATF price in Delhi for the current month—Rs 91,856.84 per kilolitre—is 13.5 per cent lower on a year-on-year basis. In its September quarter earnings, the country's largest airline IndiGo reported that its available seat kilometres (ASK)—a measure of its seat capacity—was higher by 8.2 per cent than July-September of last year. As of September 30 this year, IndiGo had a fleet of 410 aircraft, up from 334 planes as of September 30, 2023.

In the past 18 months or so, the Air India group has inducted 100 new aircraft, taking the combined fleet to around 300. Over the last year alone, group airlines have inducted a new aircraft on average every six days, and the trend is likely to continue for a few months, Air India's chief executive officer Campbell Wilson said in a recent interaction with reporters.

Late October, IndiGo announced that it had started to see a reduction in the number of air-

craft grounded due to engine issues, and expects to see a progressive decline in these numbers over the coming months.

IndiGo's aircraft groundings had hit a peak of "mid-seventies" in the July-September quarter. It has now reduced to "high-sixties" and is expected to fall further to less than 60 by the end of this year, and then to "mid-forties" by the beginning of the next financial year, the airline's chief financial officer Gaurav Negi said in an investor call on October 25.

On the demand scenario, IndiGo's chief executive officer Pieter Elbers had told investors in that call: "...as experienced in the global markets we have also observed some normalisation in the demand in the last few months when compared to the very high base of last year".

A senior official at another Indian airline concurred. "There was significant pent-up demand that was skewing the demand-supply equation last year. Also, don't forget that Go First also went out of business last year, constraining supply to some extent. Now, demand growth is moderating to a more realistic level and carriers have been able to rapidly add capacity as well," said the official, who did not wish to be identified.

High airfares had become a major pain point for flyers for much of 2023, leading to even the government monitoring the fares and advising airlines to keep ticket prices reasonable. Airfares in India are not regulated by the government and are market-driven.

SpiceJet to hold annual general meet on Dec 30



NEW DELHI: SpiceJet will hold its annual general meeting for the 2023-24 financial year on December 30. At the meeting, the airline will seek shareholders' approval for increasing the authorised share capital to infuse fresh share capital, according to a regulatory filing on Saturday.

Approvals will also be sought for the re-appointment of Ajay Singh as a director, appointment of Sonum Gayatri Malhotra as an independent director and for adopting audited financial statements for the 2023-24 financial year.

The meeting will be held on December 30.

Currently, the company's authorised share capital is Rs 15,000,000,000. The filing said in order to facilitate the infusion of fresh share capital in the company, it is necessary to increase the authorised share capital to Rs 20,000,000,000. PTI

Air India Express on expansion mode

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Air India Express, the budget-carrier arm of Air India, is embarking on a significant expansion by increasing its fleet size and introducing new routes, as passenger growth remains robust.

The airline, however, has deferred plans to launch direct flights between Kolkata and Dhaka, citing the ongoing political crisis in Bangladesh.

"You would recall we had announced our operational plan for Dhaka, which is a new and significant market for us. But because of the situation there, we have deferred those plans," Aloke Singh, Managing Director of Air India Express, said.

"As soon as the conditions are right, we will resume those plans," he said.

The airline had initially planned to launch the Dhaka services in September with six weekly flights.

Despite the deferment, Singh said the airline remains committed to expanding its presence in the eastern sector. He said its international service flights to and from Kathmandu would begin with the summer schedule, starting the end of March 2025.

Singh, speaking to reporters here, also said the airline sees strong growth potential, as daily passenger movement in India in November crossed the 5,00,000 mark.

In order to tap the growth, it aims to increase the fleet size to over 100 aircraft by March 2025, up from the existing 90. Over the next three years, the fleet size is expected to grow



to about 175, Singh said.

He also highlighted that Air India Express is part of the Air India Group, which has announced plans to acquire 470 aircraft at the group level in the next few years.

Singh said the airline's network expansion would focus on short-haul routes within a 5.5-6 hour range, and on connecting metro cities with tier-II and tier-III destinations, to tap emerging opportunities.

Air India Express currently operates 24 daily flights from Kolkata, which will increase by 10 in the summer schedule. The additions will include new routes and frequency enhancements to existing services. The airline also plans to increase its night halt capacity in Kolkata from seven aircraft to nine.

Speaking about enhanced connectivity in the northeast, Singh said the airline will introduce a new flight connecting Dimapur with Kolkata.

Patna is another destination for expansion, the top company official said.

He said Air India Express will continue to strengthen its

presence in the Gulf and Middle East regions, while expanding into Southeast Asia.

New destinations such as Bangkok, Singapore, Vietnam and Colombo are also under consideration.

Singh said flights to Vietnam could start in the next financial year or the following year. The airline is also exploring opportunities in the CIS countries.

Weekly flight frequencies in Kolkata and Bagdogra have increased by 37 per cent, rising from 168 last winter to over 230, he said.

New direct routes from Kolkata include Port Blair, Indore, and Agartala, while new routes from Bagdogra include Hyderabad and Chennai.

Air India Express operates over 400 daily flights, connecting 36 domestic and 15 international destinations. Its fleet comprises 90 aircraft, including 61 Boeing 737s and 29 Airbus A320s.

The airline's market share in Kolkata stands at 12 per cent, and 24 per cent when combined with parent company Air India.

Corporate Communications Directorate

TIMES OF INDIA BANGALORE 7 DECEMBER 2024

Year-end airfares soar for leisure; steady for metros

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Airfares for year-end domestic travel from Mumbai are sky-high, but largely only to leisure destinations such as Srinagar, Dehradun, Cochin, Port Blair, and such. Fares for travel in the last week of December on non-stop flights between metros such as those from Mumbai to Delhi, Chennai, and Bengaluru aren't that high this time around, as the cheapest return fares are still priced between Rs 9,000 and 13,000. The last weekend of the

year, comprising Dec 28 (Saturday), and Dec 29, are particularly high in demand for travel out of metros with the most expensive fares.

Even on the Mumbai-Kolkata route, which typically sees perennially high fares priced at around Rs 10,000 for one-way travel, is currently selling at Rs 17,000, which isn't bad given it is a return fare on non-stop flights. The ones who are hit the most, as usual, are passengers who need to travel for emergency purposes and buy 24-hour advance purchase fa-

res. One-way fares on flights from Mumbai to places such as Ranchi (Rs 20,000), Patna (Rs 18,000), and Kochi (Rs 12,000) are high, though not so high to places like Lucknow, Nagpur, and Raipur, which are currently selling for around Rs 8,000. Then there are other cities where even 24-hour advance, one-way fares on non-stop flights are not too high, such as Indore (Rs 5,000), Delhi (Rs 6,000), Hyderabad (Rs 4,000), and Bengaluru (Rs 7,700). The catch, as always, is that the cheapest fares are on flights with inconvenient flight times.





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TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

7 DECEMBER 2024

Airfares shoot through sky for year-end travel

Cheapest Fares Have Inconvenient Flight Timing

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Airfares for year-end domestic travel from Mumbai are sky-high, but largely only to leisure destinations such as Srinagar, Dehradun, Cochin, Port Blair, and such. Fares for travel in the last week of December on non-stop flights between metros such as those from Mumbai to Delhi, Chennai, and Bengaluru aren't that high this time around, as the cheapest return fares are still priced between ₹5,000 and ₹13,000. The last weekend of the year, comprising Dec 28 (Saturday), and Dec 29, are particularly high in demand for travel out of metros with the most expensive fares.

Even on the Mumbai-Kolkata route, which typically sees perennially high fares priced at around ₹10,000 for one-way travel, is at present selling at ₹17,000, which isn't bad given it is a return fare on non-stop flights. The ones who are hit the most, as usual, are passengers who need to travel for emergency purposes and buy 24-hour advance purchase fares.

One-way fares on flights from Mumbai to places such as Ranchi (₹20,000), Patna (₹19,000), and Kochi (₹12,000) are high, though not so high to places like Lucknow, Nagpur, and Raipur, which are for now selling for around ₹6,000. Then there are other cities where even 24-hour advance, one-way fares on non-stop flights are not too high, such as Indore (₹5,000), Delhi (₹6,000), Hyderabad (₹4,000), and Bengaluru (₹7,700). The catch, as always, is that the cheapest fares are on flights with inconvenient flight times. The bad boys are all fares to leisure destinations for travel between December 23 and January 1 (see box).

Nishant Pillai, CEO and co-founder of EaseMyTrip, says, "Indian travellers are experiencing a complex airfare

CONSUMERS COMPLAIN TO DGCA

Cheapest return fare on non-stop flight for travel from and to Mumbai between Dec 23 and Jan 1, as available on Friday:

Port Blair	₹4,900
Srinagar	₹4,000
Dehradun	₹3,600
Trivandrum	₹3,300
Bangalore	₹3,300
Kochi	₹3,000
Madurai	₹2,700

When Jan 1 falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, return fares shoot up considerably. This time around, though, Jan 1 falls on a Wednesday, and so far, the return fares haven't jumped too much, except in some destinations such as Jodhpur, Goa, and Cochin, all of them priced around ₹13,000-14,000 for one-way fare to Mumbai on Jan 1.

Source: travel portals



'BUDGET CARRIERS PRICEY TOO'

➤ Early this week, consumer rights body Mumbai Grievance Redressal (MGR) wrote to the civil aviation ministry and DGCA about complaints they received from many air travellers about steep hike in air fares by all airlines, including budget carriers.

➤ The letter, dated Dec 1, listed fares by different airlines on the Mumbai-Delhi and Mumbai-Lucknow routes for travel on the next three days. Fares ranged ₹12,000-20,000.

“There are complaints that airfares have doubled or tripled on some sectors. On our enquiries we find there is substance in these complaints. It is a matter of fact that almost on all sectors all airlines have hiked airfares taking undue advantage of festival season and holidays... How can 300% hike in airfares be tolerated at all?”

Letter by **Shirish Deshpande** | **columnist** WIP

landscape this year-end season, with significant variations across domestic and international routes. For domestic routes, the data reveals mixed fare patterns. The Delhi-Goa route, a perennial favourite, shows a modest 2% increase with average fares at ₹9,301.

He added: “However, some routes like Pune-Benga-

luru have seen dramatic fare surges, with prices jumping 80% to ₹20,000-11,000, compelling travellers to reconsider their holiday plans.”

“In terms of top destinations, domestic travellers are gravitating towards Goa, Delhi, and Bengaluru, with Goa maintaining its status as the premier year-end celebration destination,” he said.



Airfares shoot through sky for year-end travel

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Airfares for year-end domestic travel from Mumbai are sky-high, but largely only to leisure destinations such as Srinagar, Dehradun, Kochi, Port Blair, and such. Fares for travel in the last week of December on non-stop flights between metros such as those from Mumbai to Delhi, Chennai, and Bengaluru aren't that high this time around, as the cheapest return fares are still priced between Rs 9,000 and 13,000. The last weekend of the year, comprising Dec 28 (Saturday), and Dec 29, are particularly high in demand for travel out of metros with the most expensive fares.

Even on the Mumbai-Kolkata route, which typically sees perennially high fares priced at around Rs 10,000 for one-way travel, is currently selling at Rs 17,000, which isn't bad given it is a return fare on non-stop flights. The ones who are hit the most, as usual, are passengers who need to travel for emergency purposes and buy 24-hour advance purchase fares. One-way fares on flights from Mumbai to places such as Ranchi (Rs 20,000), Patna (Rs 18,000), and Kochi (Rs 12,000) are high, though not so high to places like Lucknow, Nagpur, and Raipur, which are currently selling for around Rs 8,000. Then there are other cities where even 24-hour advance, one-way fares on non-stop flights are not too high, such as Indore (Rs 5,000), Delhi (Rs 6,000), Hyderabad (Rs 4,000), and Bengaluru (Rs 7,700). The catch, as always, is that the cheapest fares are on flights with inconvenient flight times. The bad boys are all fares to leisure destinations for travel between December 23 and January 1 (see box).

"Indian travellers are experiencing a complex airfare landscape this year-end season, with significant variations across domestic and in-

CONSUMERS COMPLAIN TO DGCA

Cheapest return fare on non-stop flight for travel from and to Mumbai between Dec 23 and Jan 1, as available on Friday:

Port Blair	54,500
Srinagar	44,000
Dehradun	38,600
Trivandrum	37,300
Bagdogra	30,300
Kochi	30,000
Madurai	25,700

When Jan 1 falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, return fares shoot up considerably. This time around, though, Jan 1 falls on a Wednesday, and so far, the return fares haven't jumped too much, except in some destinations such as Jodhpur, Goa, and Kochi, all of them priced around Rs 13,000-14,000 for one-way fare to Mumbai on Jan 1

Source: Travel portals



'BUDGET CARRIERS PRICEY TOO'

➤ Early this week, consumer rights body Mumbai Grahak Panchayat (MGP) wrote to the civil aviation ministry and DGCA about complaints they received from many air travellers about steep hike in air fares by all airlines, including budget carriers

➤ The letter, dated Dec 3, listed fares by different airlines on the Mumbai-Delhi and Mumbai-Lucknow routes for travel on the next three days. Fares ranged Rs 12,000-28,000

“There are complaints that airfares have doubled or tripled on some sectors. On our enquiries we find there is substance in these complaints. It is a matter of fact that almost on all sectors all airlines have hiked airfares taking undue advantage of festival season and holidays... How can 300% hike in airfares be tolerated at all?”

Letter by **Shirish Deshpande** | CHAIRMAN MGP

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PELLING travellers to reconsider their holiday plans,” said Nishant Pitti, CEO and co-founder of EaseMyTrip. “In terms of top destinations, domestic travellers are gravitating towards Goa, Delhi, and Bengaluru, with Goa maintaining its status as the premier year-end celebration destination,” he said.



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AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

8 DECEMBER 2024

Mahindra renames EV on IndiGo protest, to move court

New Delhi: Mahindra & Mahindra on Saturday said it is dropping the word 'e' from the name of its new electric SUV 'BE6e' after Interglobe, the parent of IndiGo airlines, objected to the use of 6E which is its flight code. The company, however, said it will contest Interglobe's objections to the nomenclature of its new green SUV, the BE6e.

Mahindra, which was served a notice by Interglobe on the matter, said it will challenge the matter in court after Interglobe legally objected to the use of "BE6e" on Mahindra's new electric car, something that the auto company referred to as 'Be Sexy'.

Mahindra said it will seek the brand rights of "BE 6e" in court, even as Interglobe sought control over the brand '6E'. Mahindra said it revealed its electric origin SUVs the BE 6e and XEV 9e on Nov 26 as it also applied for trademark registration under class 12 (vehicles) for "BE 6e" as a part of its electric origin SUV portfolio.

"The mark "BE" is already registered with Mahindra in Class 12, and it stands for our "born electric" platform.

"We believe it differs fundamentally from IndiGo's "6E," which represents an airline, eliminating any risk of confusion. The distinct styling further emphasizes its uniqueness. Our registration application is for an entirely different industry sector and product and hence do not see any conflict," the carmaker said. TNN