



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

चिंता • इंडिगो ने एईआरए को लिखा पत्र नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से सफर दिल्ली से महंगा होगा

सुजीत दास गुप्ता/नई दिल्ली

यूपी के जेवर में बना नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट 15 जून से हवाई सेवाएं शुरू करने जा रहा है। लेकिन विमानन कंपनियों ने यहां के भारी एयरपोर्ट शुल्क पर गंभीर चिंता जाहिर की है। इंडिगो ने नियामक संस्था एयरपोर्ट्स इकोनॉमिक रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी (एईआरए) को पत्र लिखकर इसे घटे का सौदा बताया। नोएडा में घरेलू रूट पर प्रस्थान के लिए यूजर डेक्लरमेंट फीस (यूडीएफ) 653 रुपये तय की गई। यह दिल्ली के मुकाबले 406% ज्यादा है। इंडिगो के अनुसार उसे नोएडा से उड़ानों के संचालन के लिए सालाना 103 करोड़ रुपये अतिरिक्त चुकाने होंगे। यह गणना रोजाना 15 राउंड ट्रिप के आधार पर की गई है। दिल्ली और नोएडा के बीच शुल्कों में जमीन-आसमान का अंतर है। एयरलाइंस का कहना है कि वे इस बड़ी लागत को खुद वहन नहीं कर पाएंगी। बोझ यात्रियों पर पड़ेगा। महंगा किराया होने से लोग इस एयरपोर्ट के उपयोग से बच सकते हैं।

यूडीएफ: दिल्ली की तुलना में यह 404 फीसदी ज्यादा

नोएडा में यात्रियों को भारी शुल्क चुकाना होगा। घरेलू उड़ानों पर यह दिल्ली से 404% और अंतरराष्ट्रीय रूट पर 89% अधिक है। एयर इंडिया के मुताबिक इससे केवल नजदीकी यात्री ही यहां आएंगे। **लैंडिंग: दिल्ली से 119% अधिक चार्ज** नोएडा में 100 टन से कम वजन के विमानों का लैंडिंग शुल्क दिल्ली से 119% ज्यादा है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के लिए दर 53% अधिक है। आईएटीए ने इसे ज्यादा बताया है।

नोएडा: यहां विमान पार्क करना देश में सबसे महंगा

नोएडा में ए321 विमान का छह घंटे का पार्किंग शुल्क 14,500 रुपये है। यह देश में सर्वाधिक है। नवी मुंबई में यह 8,000 और दिल्ली में 6,900 रुपये से कम है। एयर इंडिया के अनुसार दो घंटे बाद पार्किंग फीस 10 गुना बढ़ जाएगी। इससे एयरलाइंस के लिए विमान खड़ा करना महंगा होगा।

दिल्ली vs नोएडा: हर मामले में दिल्ली से महंगा नोएडा

शुल्क (रु. में)	दिल्ली	नोएडा	वृद्धि
प्रस्थान यूडीएफ (घरेलू)	129	653	406%
प्रस्थान यूडीएफ (इंटरनेशनल)	650	1200	85%
आगमन यूडीएफ (घरेलू)	56	282	404%
आगमन यूडीएफ (इंटरनेशनल)	275	520	89%
लैंडिंग (घरेलू) - प्रति टन	347	760	119%
लैंडिंग (इंटरनेशनल) - प्रति टन	570	870	53%



(स्रोत: इंडिगो द्वारा एईआरए को लिखा पत्र)



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

8 MAY 2026

Modi to address public outside HAL Airport on Sunday

BENGALURU, DHNS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to deliver a public address at the HAL Airport this Sunday after the party's maiden poll victory in West Bengal, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka said.

"The prime minister will land in HAL at around 9 am. On behalf of the people of Bengaluru, we will felicitate him. He will spend about half an hour with us. He will address all of us outside the HAL airport," Ashoka, who is in charge of this event, said and urged citizens to participate in the programme. After this, Modi will attend an event to mark the 45th anniversary of The Art of Living and inaugurate the newly constructed Dhyana Mandir.

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FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

8 MAY 2026

Airport Back To Full Ops After 6-hr Monsoon Prep Shutdown

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) successfully completed its annual pre-monsoon runway maintenance on Thursday, restoring full operations at 5pm after a 6-hour closure. The exercise ensures the world's busiest single-runway airport remains safe and resilient during heavy monsoon.

Runways

Primary (09/27)

3,448 mtr

Secondary (14/32)

2,871 mtr

Daily Ops

Handles upwards of **950 air traffic** movements (ATMs) daily.

Key works

Rubber removal from tarmac to restore friction for aircraft braking.

Inspection and audit of over **3,000 runway** lights and supporting substations (Airfield Ground

Lighting - AGL).

Repainting of surface markings. Large-scale cleaning of the drainage network for rapid water runoff.

Testing of critical cable networks for IT and navigational aids.

Preparation

Six months of planning and stakeholder coordination with airlines to minimise disruption.

Purpose

Prevent hydroplaning, electrical failures, and ensure safety during low-visibility and heavy rainfall conditions.



Text: FPJ News Service



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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

MLA urges UP govt to cut user development fee at Jewar Airport

Vinod Rajput

vinod.rajput@htlive.com

GREATER NOIDA: Jewar MLA Dharendra Singh has flagged high user development charges (UDC) on flyers boarding or deboarding aircraft at Noida International Airport (NIA) in comparison to Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport and requested the aviation ministry and Uttar Pradesh chief secretary to lower the charges to help build passenger confidence.

"I have written to the ministry and also to the Uttar Pradesh government so that this issue is taken up urgently by the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA), which has fixed the high UDF, inflating the ticket prices," Singh told HT on Friday.

The MLA said on Wednesday, IndiGo released the schedule for its flights operating from NIA, and according to the ticket prices displayed, the airfare from Lucknow to Jewar is approximately ₹5,072, whereas flights from Lucknow to Delhi Airport are avail-

ble between ₹3,600 and ₹4,300.

He said, according to the tariff structure at NIA, an international flyer is charged a UDC of ₹980 for departure and ₹420 for arrival. For the domestic flyer, the charges are ₹490 for departure and ₹210 for arrival. However, at IGI, the UDC for international flyers is ₹345 for arrival and ₹810 for departure, and for domestic flyers, the UDC is ₹56 and ₹129, respectively.

The MLA said the high prices are concerning, as NIA has been envisioned as an alternative, modern, and accessible airport. "If ticket prices remain higher than Delhi airport, it may adversely affect the airport's competitiveness," said Singh, adding that Noida airport is yet to get a metro, rapid rail access, and other multi-modal transportation infrastructure.

While the NIA spokesperson did not respond to HT's requests for comment, nodal officer Shailendra Bhatia said UDF generally remains high at a new airport and will later be reduced.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

IndiGo, Air India oppose high user fee at new airports

Abhishek Law

abhishek.law@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: India's top airlines, IndiGo and Air India, have opposed proposals by the country's newest airports to raise passenger charges in their submissions to the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (Aera), which Mint has reviewed.

The two airlines warned that a steep increase in user development fee (UDF) could slow traffic

growth at a time when domestic demand is weakening due to elevated jet fuel prices.

The UDF is a mandatory fee collected through airfares by airlines on behalf of airport operators to fund infrastructure expansion and modernisation of terminals, runways, etc.

Adani-owned Navi Mumbai International Airport Ltd (NMIAL), which started operations in December, levies a UDF of ₹620 on domestic departures

and ₹270 on arrivals, which will remain unchanged in FY27.

It has proposed to raise UDF by 20% in FY28 and 10% annually through FY30, resulting in a total increase of about 45% over FY26 levels. A similar hike has been proposed for international passenger charges.

Noida International Airport (NIA), which is expected to begin operations on 15 June, has proposed domestic departure UDF of ₹653 in FY27, rising by about

41% by FY31. International departure charges are set to rise by roughly 45% over the same period, while arrival charges could rise about 40%. Overall, the proposed annual increases range from 7% to 17% across domestic and international passengers, for both departures and arrivals. These charges are significantly higher than at several other airports.

Delhi airport's domestic departure UDF for economy

fares is ₹129, about a fifth of the charge proposed at Navi Mumbai and Noida. Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, also operated by Adani, charges a domestic departure fee of ₹175. Bengaluru's domestic departure fee is ₹550, while Kolkata airport has a tariff of ₹547.

Air India and IndiGo did not respond to Mint's queries. Aera is yet to announce the final tariff rates for the two airports.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

MLA seeks review of user fee, charges at Jewar airport

The Hindu Bureau

LUCKNOW

Jewar MLA Dhirendra Singh on Friday expressed concern over the proposed user development fee and other passenger charges at the upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar. He submitted a detailed representation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, among others, seeking a reassessment of the charges.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Karnataka proposes 'Wisdom Valley' in Bengaluru Airport City

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission (KSPPC) has proposed establishment of Wisdom Valley, a world-class Knowledge City dedicated to promoting education, research, innovation and sustainable urban development at the Bengaluru Airport City, which is located near the Kempegowda International Airport.

"The project seeks to create a globally recognised ecosystem by integrating international institutes, research centres, innovation hubs, and knowledge-based industries within a single inte-

grated urban framework," said KSPPC Vice-Chairman B.R Patil in a letter to the Principal Secretary, Department of Planning, Programme monitoring and Statistics. He added that the project estimated at approximately ₹15,500 crore will be implemented in phased stages.

In another communication to Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, KSPPC member S. Mohanadass Hegde said that the project is envisioned as an innovative urban development centered around fostering knowledge creation, dissemination and application.

He said that this project should come up in the Bengaluru Airport City.

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Hari Marar in a letter to Ms. Rajneesh said, "We would appreciate the opportunity to engage further to assess how Wisdom Valley and the Airport City development may be aligned to maximise benefits for the State."

Spread over 463 acres, the project is said to include a business park, a global innovation hub, an education and health district, a retail dining entertainment village, a concert arena, a convention centre, and a knowledge park, among other development features.



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THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Intl flights from Noida airport 3 months after domestic op begins: CEO

Noida: The Noida International Airport will operate international flights around 90 days after the operations for domestic flights begin at the newly-inaugurated airport on June 15, CEO Rakesh Kumar Singh told *The Indian Express* on Friday.

On June 15, IndiGo will start operating flights on two domestic routes—between Noida and Hyderabad, and Noida and Amritsar. The airline started selling tickets on Thursday.

“Within weeks, the airline also intends to connect NIA to

over 16 destinations across India. Daily flights to Hyderabad and Amritsar are set to begin on June 15 itself, and flights to Bengaluru and Jammu routes a day later. By July 1, the network will expand, adding Navi Mumbai, Srinagar, Jodhpur, Dharamshala,

Bhopal, Dehradun, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Pantnagar, and to districts like Bareilly and Kishanagar four and three days in a week, respectively,” he said.

Singh added, “We are in talks with Air India and other airlines. Once the discussion on do-

mestic flights is over, we will begin planning for international flights...we don’t have a list of countries that will be connected from the airport but the discussion will start soon. We will soon finalise the framework.”

NEETIKA JHA



Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

आर्थिक बोझ

लखनऊ से जेवर का टिकट 5072 रुपए, जबकि दिल्ली के लिए खर्च करने होंगे केवल 3600 रुपए

नोएडा हवाई अड्डे से उड़ानें महंगी, किराया आइजीआइ से अधिक

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
ग्रेटर नोएडा, 8 मई।

नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से 15 जून 2026 से शुरू होने वाली वाणिज्यिक उड़ानों को लेकर किराए की दरें चर्चा का विषय बन गई हैं। शुरुआती आंकड़ों में सामने आया है कि इस नए एअरपोर्ट से उड़ानों का किराया दिल्ली स्थित इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (आइजीआइ) की तुलना में अधिक पड़ रहा है, जिससे यात्रियों पर अतिरिक्त आर्थिक बोझ की आशंका जताई जा रही है।

जानकारी के अनुसार, जेवर से लखनऊ का हवाई किराया 4981 रुपए है, जबकि इसी रूट पर यदि यात्री दिल्ली एअरपोर्ट से उड़ान भरें तो



दिल्ली से लखनऊ का किराया 3394 रुपए है। इस हिसाब से उन्हें 1587 रुपए तक की बचत हो सकती है। इसी तरह लखनऊ से जेवर एअरपोर्ट तक का किराया 5,072 रुपए है, जबकि दिल्ली के लिए यही टिकट 3,600 से 4,300 रुपए के बीच उपलब्ध है।

किराए में इस अंतर को लेकर स्थानीय जनप्रतिनिधियों और यात्रियों में चिंता बढ़ गई है।

उपयोगकर्ता विकास शुल्क
(यूडीएफ) समेत अन्य यात्री शुल्कों के पुनर्मूल्यांकन की मांग
दिल्ली में एएफटी पर 25 फीसद शुल्क,
जबकि यूपी में है केवल एक फीसद।

जेवर विधायक धीरेंद्र सिंह ने इस मुद्दे पर गंभीर आपत्ति जताते हुए उपयोगकर्ता विकास शुल्क (यूडीएफ) समेत अन्य यात्री शुल्कों के पुनर्मूल्यांकन की मांग की है। उन्होंने इस संबंध में उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य सचिव सहित केंद्र और राज्य सरकार के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों को पत्र भेजा है। विधायक का कहना है कि नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा देश की एक

महत्वाकांक्षी परियोजना है, जिसका उद्देश्य पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश, एनसीआर और उत्तर भारत में कनेक्टिविटी और आर्थिक विकास को बढ़ावा देना है। लेकिन यदि शुरुआती चरण में ही किराया अधिक रहेगा तो यह परियोजना यात्रियों के लिए आकर्षक नहीं रह पाएगी। उन्होंने बताया कि एअरलाइन द्वारा जारी उड़ान समय-सारणी में किराए की ऊंची दरें सामने आई हैं। अभी तक हवाई अड्डे को मेट्रो, रैपिड रेल और अन्य मल्टी-मॉडल कनेक्टिविटी का पूरा लाभ नहीं मिला है, ऐसे में अतिरिक्त शुल्कों का बोझ उचित नहीं है। विधायक ने यह भी बताया कि उत्तर प्रदेश में एविएशन टर्बाइन फ्यूल पर केवल 1 फीसद शुल्क है, जबकि दिल्ली में यह लगभग 25 फीसद तक पहुंचता है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

13 घंटे के मेहनत के बाद मिली वन विभाग व टीएसए को सफलता

अभियान

गंगा की जैव विविधता के लिए एक बड़ा कदम

नमामि गंगे की डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस ने चार महीने में आठ डाल्फिन को बचाया

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 8 मई।

भारत की पहली 'डाल्फिन बचाव एंबुलेंस' ने अब तक आठ गंगा डाल्फिन को बचाकर वापस नदी में छोड़ दिया है। राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (एनएमसीजी) ने उत्तर प्रदेश के गोंडा जिले में चलाए गए अपने ताजा बचाव अभियान की जानकारी देते हुए यह बताया।

एनएमसीजी ने सोशल मीडिया में एक पोस्ट साझा कर बताया कि गोंडा में एक वयस्क नर गंगा डाल्फिन नहर में फंसी मिली थी। उसने बताया कि वह नदी की धारा से भटक गई थी और उथले पानी में फंसी होने के कारण हर पल कमजोर होती जा रही थी। उसने कहा कि ऐसे में एक ही उम्मीद थी, एनएमसीजी की डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस। उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग

इस अभियान के तहत एनएमसीजी ने कहा कि इस वर्ष की शुरुआत में नमामि गंगा मिशन के तहत शुरू की गई डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस, लुम्नाप्राय गंगा नदी डाल्फिन के संरक्षण के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण हस्तक्षेप तंत्र के रूप में उभरी है। यह पहली ऐसी सुविधा है, जिसे जनवरी 2026 में शुरू किया गया था, और तब से आठ गंगा डाल्फिन को बचाया गया है और नदी में छोड़ा गया।



और 'टर्टल सर्वाइवल अलायंस (टीएसए) इंडिया' की टीम मौके पर पहुंची तथा 13 घंटे की लगातार मेहनत के बाद डाल्फिन को सुरक्षित बाहर निकाला गया, चिकित्सकीय जांच की गई और राप्ती नदी में फिर से छोड़ दिया गया। एक जीव फिर से अपने घर लौटा।

एनएमसीजी ने इस अभियान को विशेष बचाव सुविधा की एक और सफलता बताते हुए

कहा कि नमामि गंगे मिशन के तहत इस वर्ष के आरंभ में शुरू की गई डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस गंगा नदी की विलुप्तप्राय डाल्फिन के संरक्षण के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण व्यवस्था के रूप में उभरी है।

उसने कहा, 'यह डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस सिर्फ एक वाहन नहीं है। यह भारत की इस प्रकार की पहली सुविधा है जिसे जनवरी 2026 में शुरू किया गया था और तब से अब तक आठ गंगा

गंगा डाल्फिन राष्ट्रीय जलीय जीव

जनवरी से अप्रैल 2026 तक 8 डाल्फिन को बचाया गया। यह एंबुलेंस आवश्यक चिकित्सीय उपकरणों से लैस है, जो घायलों को उपचार प्रदान करती है। गोंडा में आपरेशन के बाद एक नर डाल्फिन को बचाकर राप्ती नदी में छोड़ा गया। गंगा डाल्फिन भारत का राष्ट्रीय जलीय जीव है, जिनका संरक्षण नमामि गंगे कार्यक्रम का प्रमुख हिस्सा है।

डाल्फिन को बचाकर वापस नदी में छोड़ा जा चुका है।'

एनएमसीजी ने कहा, 'यह अंदर से एक चलता-फिरता आइसीयू है जिसमें हर जरूरी उपकरण मौजूद है ताकि संकट के समय एक भी पल बर्बाद न हो।' उसने कहा कि गंगा डाल्फिन भारत का राष्ट्रीय जलीय जीव है और उनकी कुल अनुमानित संख्या लगभग 6,324

है। उसने कहा, 'हर एक डाल्फिन कीमती है। हर एक बचाव, उनकी पूरी प्रजाति के भविष्य की दिशा में एक कदम है।' केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री सी आर पाटिल ने नमामि गंगे मिशन की जलीय जैव विविधता संरक्षण पहलों के तहत इस वर्ष जनवरी में भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान में डाल्फिन बचाव एंबुलेंस की शुरुआत की थी।

गौरतलब है कि गंगा डाल्फिन भारत का राष्ट्रीय जलीय जीव है, जिनका संरक्षण 'नमामि गंगे' कार्यक्रम का प्रमुख हिस्सा है। डाल्फिन की आबादी, जो वर्तमान में लगभग 6,324 है, के संरक्षण में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रही है। ऐसे में अब गंगा नदी में अगर कोई डाल्फिन घायल हो जाए, मछली पकड़ने के जाल में फंस जाए या उथले पानी में अटक जाए तो उसकी मदद के लिए तुरंत डाल्फिन एंबुलेंस मौके पर पहुंच जाती है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

8 MAY 2026

Noida airport to begin ops with IndiGo flights to Lucknow, B'luru

NOIDA: IndiGo on Thursday announced that it will start commercial flight operations from the Noida International Airport in Jewar from June 15, becoming the launch carrier for the greenfield airport in western Uttar Pradesh.

The first day flights will be to and fro Lucknow and Bengaluru, the airline said in a statement.

Noida International Airport was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 28.

IndiGo said it will be the first carrier to start commercial services from the airport, the third in the National Capital Region (NCR).

According to the airline, inaugural flights on June 15 will operate on the Lucknow-Noida-Bengaluru-Noida-Lucknow sector.

As per the announced schedule, flight 6E 2278 will depart from Lucknow at 7.05 am and arrive in Noida at 8.05 am before departing for Bengaluru at 8.35 am and landing there at 11.05 am.

AGENCIES

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के लिए टिकट दर और परिवहन-व्यवस्था चुनौती

जेब पर भारी, पहुंच से दूर फिर यात्री दिल्ली छोड़ क्यों जाएं?



■ NBT रिपोर्ट, ग्रेटर नोएडा

नोएडा इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट का वाकई आम आदमी के लिए एक सुलभ विकल्प साबित होगा, या फिर यह सिर्फ एक 'प्रीमियम टैग' बनकर रह जाएगा? सवाल बड़ा है, अगर दिल्ली के मुकाबले यहां से उड़ान भरना महंगा पड़ेगा, तो कोई यात्री इतनी दूर जेवर क्यों जाएगा। जब तक किराया सस्ता न हो और सुविधाएं बेहतर न हों, तब तक यात्री अपने पुराने टिकट (IGI एयरपोर्ट) को क्यों छोड़ेंगे? इसके अलावा, अभी तो यहां पहुंचने के लिए न तो कोई पुख्ता पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट है और न ही टैक्सी की गारंटी।

सस्ता ईंधन (ATF), फिर भी महंगी टिकट?: सबसे बड़ा विरोधाभास टैक्स के गणित में छिपा है। IGI पर हवाई ईंधन (ATF) पर

जहां 25% टैक्स लगता है, वहीं यूपी सरकार ने नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के लिए इसे मात्र 1% कर दिया है। चावजूद इसके, नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से टिकट दरें दिल्ली के मुकाबले अधिक हैं। अगर ईंधन पर इतना बड़ा फायदा मिल रहा है, तो उसका सीधा लाभ यात्रियों को क्यों नहीं मिल रहा?

अभी नोएडा एयरपोर्ट तक पहुंचने के लिए कोई पुख्ता पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट की है, गैरमौजूदगी

इसकी उपयोगिता पर भी उठ रहे सवाल: नोएडा इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट को दिल्ली के 'विकल्प' के तौर पर प्रचारित किया जा रहा है, लेकिन वास्तविकता की धरातल पर चुनौतियां कहीं ज्यादा हैं। यदि शुरुआत में ही यह एयरपोर्ट आर्थिक रूप से बोझिल और पहुंच के मामले में दुर्गम साबित हुआ, तो यात्रियों का भरोसा जीतना इसके लिए लोहों के चने चबाने जैसा होगा।

शुरुआत में सस्ती फ्लाइट की उम्मीद लगाए बैठे लोगों को लगा झटका

15 जून के किराये पर एक नजर ₹

नोएडा - लखनऊ	₹4981
लखनऊ - नोएडा	₹5072
दिल्ली - लखनऊ	₹3394
लखनऊ - दिल्ली	₹4021
दिल्ली - बंगलुरु	₹8910
बंगलुरु - दिल्ली	₹8810
नोएडा-बंगलुरु	₹8979
हैदराबाद-दिल्ली	₹6129
हैदराबाद-नोएडा	₹6198
अमृतसर-दिल्ली	₹3499
अमृतसर-नोएडा	₹3499

— किराया रुपये प्रति घंटी

सीमित उड़ाने और प्रतिस्पर्धा की कमी

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से शुरुआत में सीमित एयरलाइंस ही उड़ान भरेंगी। दिल्ली में उड़ानों की संख्या अधिक होने से एयरलाइंस के बीच 'प्राइस वॉर' रहता है, जिससे यात्रियों को सस्ती टिकटें मिल जाती हैं। नोएडा में प्रतिस्पर्धा की कमी का फायदा क्या कंपनियां ऊंचे किराए के रूप में उठाएंगी? साथ ही, यहां यूजर डेवलपमेंट फंड भी दिल्ली की तुलना में अधिक रहने वाली है, जो सीधे तौर पर टिकट की कीमत बढ़ा देगी।

अकासा की उड़ान भी 16 जून से



■ NBT रिपोर्ट, ग्रेटर नोएडा : इंडिगो के बाद नोएडा इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट से अब एयर अकासा ने भी 16 जून से उड़ानें शुरू करने की तैयारी पूरी कर ली है। एक-दो दिन में फ्लाइट शेड्यूल जारी होने की उम्मीद है। इसके बाद टिकट बुकिंग शुरू हो जाएगी। नोएडा एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन से बातचीत के बाद इंडिगो, अकासा एयर और एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस ने यहां से अपनी सेवाएं देने का फैसला किया है। इंडिगो ने गुरुवार को अपना फ्लाइट शेड्यूल भी जारी कर दिया। 15 जून को पहली फ्लाइट लखनऊ से आएगी।

परिवहन: सबसे बड़ी चुनौती

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से मेट्रो, खोटीसी बसें और हजारों टैक्सियों का जाल जुड़ा है। इसके उलट, नोएडा एयरपोर्ट तक पहुंचने के लिए वर्तमान में कोई भी सुगम सार्वजनिक परिवहन व्यवस्था तैयार नहीं है। क्या यात्री भारी भरकम टैक्सी किराया देकर जेवर पहुंचना पसंद करेंगे? क्या नोएडा एयरपोर्ट पहुंचने का खर्च, टिकट में हुई किसी भी छोटी-मोटी बचत को बराबर नहीं कर देगा?



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW

8 MAY 2026

IndiGo flights to Lucknow, Bengaluru from Noida airport from next month

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

■ Noida

IndiGo on Thursday announced that it will start commercial flight operations from the Noida International Airport in Jewar from June 15, becoming the launch carrier for the greenfield airport in western Uttar Pradesh.

The first day flights will be to and fro Lucknow and Bengaluru, the airline said in a statement. Noida International Airport was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 28. IndiGo said it will be the first carrier to start commercial services from the airport, the third in the National Capital Region (NCR).

According to the airline, inaugural flights on June 15 will operate on the Lucknow-Noida-Bengaluru-Noida-

Lucknow sector.

As per the announced schedule, flight 6E 2278 will depart from Lucknow at 7.05 am and arrive in Noida at 8.05 am before departing for Bengaluru at 8.35 am and landing there at 11.05 am.

The return flight, 6E 2279, will leave Bengaluru at 3.45 pm and reach Noida at 6.20 pm before departing for Lucknow at 6.55 pm and arriving there at 8 pm.

IndiGo said it will gradually introduce direct flights connecting Noida International Airport to more than 16 destinations across the country, including metro cities such as Bengaluru and Hyderabad, besides tier-2 and tier-3 cities like Amritsar, Chandigarh, Dharamsala, Jaipur, Lucknow, Navi Mumbai, Pantnagar and Srinagar.

The airline said bookings for the flights are being

opened in phases through its website, mobile application and authorised travel partners.

Aloke Singh, Chief Strategy Officer of IndiGo, said the airline was pleased to announce the launch of operations from Noida International Airport.

"Strategically positioned on the Yamuna Expressway, Noida International Airport will be the new gateway for western Uttar Pradesh alongside the NCR. As we continue to expand our operations, we remain committed to delivering affordable, on-time and hassle-free travel experiences," Singh said.

IndiGo said the airport is expected to emerge as a major domestic aviation hub and will strengthen connectivity between Delhi-NCR and western Uttar Pradesh through integrated road and rail infrastructure.



Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

8 MAY 2026

अमौसी एयरपोर्ट पर 2 यात्रियों के पास से मिले कारतूस

स्वतंत्र भारत ब्यूरो लखनऊ। चौधरी चरण सिंह एयरपोर्ट पर गुरुवार को दो अलग-अलग यात्रियों के पास .32 बोर के कारतूस बरामद हुए। सुरक्षा जांच के दौरान कारतूस मिलने से एयरपोर्ट पर कुछ देर के लिए हलचल मच गई। बाद में शस्त्र लाइसेंस दिखाने पर पुलिस ने कारतूस जब्त कर यात्रियों को छोड़ दिया। पुलिस के अनुसार, कानपुर निवासी गजेंद्र सिंह चौहान मुंबई जाने वाली एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की उड़ान (आईएक्स 1027) से यात्रा कर रहे थे। वहीं, लखनऊ के मानवेंद्र प्रताप सिंह अहमदाबाद जाने वाली इंडिगो की उड़ान (6ई 142) से यात्रा करने वाले थे। सुरक्षा जांच के दौरान गजेंद्र के हैंडबैग से और मानवेंद्र के लगेज बैग से एक-एक जिंदा कारतूस मिला। कारतूस मिलते ही सीआईएसएफ जवानों ने दोनों यात्रियों को हिरासत में ले लिया। पूछताछ के बाद उन्हें सरोजनी नगर पुलिस के हवाले कर दिया गया। दोनों यात्रियों ने बाद में अपने-अपने शस्त्रों के लाइसेंस पुलिस को दिखाए। लाइसेंस की पुष्टि होने के बाद पुलिस ने बरामद कारतूस जब्त कर लिए और दोनों यात्रियों को छोड़ दिया। हालांकि, इस पूरी कार्रवाई के कारण दोनों यात्री अपनी निर्धारित उड़ानें नहीं पकड़ पाए और उनकी यात्रा छूट गई।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

8 MAY 2026

MUM AIRPORT'S RUNWAYS NOW RAIN-READY

Sanjay Hadkar



Mumbai airport has completed its annual pre-monsoon runway maintenance exercise, restoring both its runways — 09/27 and runway 14/32 — to full operations after a six-hour shutdown window on Thursday



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Vietjet in deals with GMR Airports, Bird Group

Mumbai, May 8: Vietnamese private carrier Vietjet on Friday announced signing agreements with India's GMR Airports and Bird Group for collaboration in aviation infrastructure, services,

technology, and connectivity between the two countries. Under the pact, Vietjet and GMR Airports will explore opportunities to jointly develop air connectivity, infrastructure, logistics, aviation servic-

es, smart airports and long-term investment initiatives.

The pact with Bird Group will focus on ground handling services, training, aviation technology, and travel, it said.

The agreements pave the way for cooperation between India and Vietnam across segments while contributing to economic, trade and people-to-people connectivity between two countries, it said. — PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

16 जून से शुरू होंगी एयर अकासा की उड़ानें

यमुना सिटी। नोएडा हवाई अड्डे से एयर अकासा 16 जून से उड़ानें शुरू कर देगी। विमानन कंपनी सोमवार तक फ्लाइट शेड्यूल जारी कर सकती है। शेड्यूल जारी करने के साथ ही टिकटों की बुकिंग भी शुरू हो जाएगी। नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन के साथ अनुबंध के अनुसार इंडिगो, अकासा एयर और एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस कॉमर्शियल उड़ानों के संचालन की तैयारी कर रही है। व्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

घाटे वाले मार्गों पर उड़ानें कम या सेवाएं निलंबित करेगी एअर इंडिया

नई दिल्ली। एअर इंडिया ने पश्चिम एशिया संकट से पैदा चुनौतियों और बढ़ते परिचालन खर्च के बीच लागत में कटौती करने के लिए कई अहम फैसले लिए हैं। इसके तहत, कंपनी उन मार्गों पर उड़ानों की संख्या घटाने या सेवाएं निलंबित कर सकती है, जहां हवाई क्षेत्र से जुड़ी बाधाओं के कारण लगातार घाटा हो रहा है।

विमानन कंपनी के सीईओ कैपबेल विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को टाउनहॉल बैठक में कहा, मौजूदा हालात में हर संसाधनों की बर्बादी और फिजूलखर्ची रोकने के लिए सख्त निगरानी रखी जाएगी। कंपनी ने सालाना वेतन वृद्धि को कम

कंपनी ने एक तिमाही टाली सालाना वेतन वृद्धि, खर्च में कटौती करने पर जोर

से कम एक तिमाही के लिए टालने का फैसला किया है। इसके बावजूद, बीते वित्त वर्ष के लिए प्रदर्शन आधारित भुगतान और तय प्रमोशन प्रक्रिया जारी रहेगी। हालांकि, कंपनी प्रबंधन ने कर्मियों को भरोसा दिलाया है कि फिलहाल छंटनी की योजना नहीं है। एयरलाइन ने अप्रैल से अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में कटौती शुरू की थी, जो मई में भी जारी है। जून और जुलाई के लिए उड़ान कार्यक्रम में और कटौती हो सकती है। एजेंसी



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

उड़ान के लिए टिकट बुकिंग की होड़, 30 फीसदी बढ़ा किराया लखनऊ और बंगलूरु की टिकटों की बढ़ी मांग

ग्रेटर नोएडा। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से टिकट बुकिंग शुरू होते ही हवाई यात्रा का क्रेज लोगों में दिख रहा है। पहले ही दिन यात्रा का अनुभव लेने के लिए स्थानीय लोग टिकट बुक करा रहे हैं। डायनामिक प्राइसिंग की वजह से बीते 24 घंटे में ही नोएडा से लखनऊ और बंगलूरु की टिकटों की कीमत करीब 30 फीसदी तक महंगी हो गई है।

अधिकारियों ने बताया कि लखनऊ के लिए उड़ान भरने वाली एयरबस-320 विमान में करीब 78 सीटें हैं। इनमें से आधी से ज्यादा बुक हो चुकी हैं। रिटर्न फ्लाइट में भी बुकिंग की स्थिति कुछ ऐसी है। टिकट बुकिंग शुरू होने

वक्त नोएडा से लखनऊ का किराया करीब 5000 रुपये था। शुक्रवार शाम इसकी कीमत 6500 रुपये के ऊपर पहुंच गई। इसी तरह बंगलूरु की टिकट भी पिछले दिन की तुलना में महंगी हुई है। हैदराबाद और अमृतसर की टिकटों की बुकिंग तेजी से हो रही है।

ग्रेटर नोएडा के सेनी गांव निवासी अनुराग भाटी ने कहा कि नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से फ्लाइट शुरू होना गौरव की बात है। वह अपने साथियों के साथ पहले ही दिन लखनऊ की यात्रा करेंगे। इसी तरह विकास सिंह भी परिवार के साथ अमृतसर घूमने जाने की योजना बना रहे हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Air India defers salary hikes amid rising costs, but layoffs unlikely

GEOPOLITICAL DISRUPTIONS. Airline asks staff to focus on cost controls as fuel prices weigh on operations

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

Tata Group-backed Air India has told employees that it does not anticipate layoffs, but has decided to defer annual salary increments by at least one quarter amid mounting cost pressures arising from elevated aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices, airspace-related disruptions and geopolitical uncertainty, sources told *businessline*.

The announcement was made during a town hall meeting addressed by Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Campbell Wilson, along with Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) Ravindra Kumar GP and Chief Financial Officer Sanjay Sharma.

Notably, *businessline* was the first to report on Wednesday that Air India would announce key cost decisions taken at its board meeting



CUTTING EXPENSES. According to sources, Campbell Wilson has called on employees to suspend discretionary expenditure, renegotiate rates and defer non-critical spending

through a town hall meet on Friday. The developments come a day after Air India's board reviewed the airline's FY26 financial performance, which was dented by an estimated loss exceeding ₹20,000 crore, as earlier reported by *businessline*.

Interestingly, the board meeting on Thursday morning was preceded by the remuneration committee's meeting, where key de-

cisions on payouts were taken, sources said.

VARIABLE PAY

During the town hall, the management informed employees that while variable pay for the last financial year and planned promotions would continue, annual increments would be deferred in view of the uncertain operating environment.

Besides, CHRO Ravindra

Kumar GP told employees that the airline does not anticipate layoffs despite the challenging operating environment.

Speaking during the town hall, sources quoted Wilson as telling employees that the airline industry continues to face multiple external headwinds, including the continued closure of Pakistan airspace, disruptions across West Asia, depreciation of the rupee, and a 2.5x-3x increase in jet fuel prices.

Collectively, these developments have adversely affected travel sentiment, the management is understood to have conveyed to employees.

OPERATING COSTS

Notably, jet fuel prices, which constitute a substantial share of airline operating costs, have become highly volatile and are adding pressure, particularly on international operations. Besides, Wilson, sources said, called for a "relentless focus on

costs", asking employees to suspend discretionary expenditure, renegotiate rates where feasible, and defer non-critical spending.

"There must be a laser-sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages," Wilson was quoted as saying during the interaction, while also emphasising the need to continue improving customer experience and net promoter score in a cost-conscious manner.

According to sources, Air India is studying further route rationalisation, particularly on international operations, alongside measures aimed at improving operational efficiency and re-deploying capacity more effectively.

Furthermore, sources quoted CFO Sanjay Sharma as saying that while strong revenue growth and fleet expansion drove financial momentum through FY25, FY26 has seen a softening in revenue amid heightened external uncertainties.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Top airlines to lease over 200 aircraft through GIFT City

Avinash Nair
Ahmedabad

Major Indian airlines including IndiGo, Air India, Akasa Air and Star Air have pledged to lease over 200 additional aircraft through their respective aircraft leasing arms in Gujarat's GIFT City, a move that will almost triple the number of commercial aircraft currently leased through the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).

IndiGo's leasing arm, InterGlobe Aviation Financial

Services IFSC, said it plans to almost double its aircraft portfolio from 78 aircraft as of March 2026 to 150 aircraft by March 2027, with the additional aircraft estimated to be worth \$3.5-\$4 billion.

Similarly, Air India subsidiary AI Fleet Services said it aims to increase aircraft leased through GIFT IFSC from 16 aircraft to as many as 75 aircraft during FY27, involving assets worth around \$2.5-\$3 billion.

AKASA GETS APPROVAL
Akasa Air, which received approval on Thursday to set up

Akasa Air Leasing IFSC Pvt Ltd, said it plans to lease 60 aircraft over the next five years through GIFT City structures.

STAR AIR PLAN

Meanwhile, Star Air subsidiary Ghodawat Aviation IFSC Pvt Ltd plans to lease six-eight regional aircraft through the centre.

These plans were outlined during the Aircraft Leasing and Financing Summit 2.0 held in GIFT City on Friday in the presence of Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu, Gujarat Chief

Minister Bhupendra Patel, airline executives, aircraft lessors and bankers.

According to the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), a total of 101 commercial aircraft have so far been leased through GIFT IFSC, including 82 narrow-body aircraft, 14 wide-body aircraft, four ATR aircraft and one cargo aircraft.

Of these, 78 aircraft have been leased by IndiGo, 16 by Air India, while the remaining aircraft — five and two respectively — have been leased by Vman Aviation Ser-

vices IFSC Pvt Ltd and Willis Lease Finance India IFSC Pvt Ltd.

GREENFIELD BUSINESS

"Aircraft leasing is a greenfield business. From a position of no leasing in 2020, today we have 40 aircraft lessors," said K Rajaraman, chairperson of IFSCA. He added that GIFT IFSC now has 203 aircraft, including 101 commercial aircraft, and 84 aircraft engines leased through its ecosystem, taking the total aviation assets linked to the centre to more than 373 assets. Interna-

tional banking units operating in GIFT IFSC have also funded nearly \$855 million in aviation debt, he said.

Civil Aviation Secretary Samir Kumar Sinha said the next phase of India's aviation financing journey would require access to low-cost, long-tenure domestic capital as the sector transitions from leasing activity to large-scale aircraft ownership.

"As we move from leasing activity to large-scale ownership, access to long-term, low-cost capital becomes the next strategic priority," Sinha said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

India planning aircraft financing overhaul and framework for fractional ownership

Our Bureau
Ahmedabad

The Union Civil Aviation Ministry is working on a series of policy initiatives aimed at deepening India's aircraft financing ecosystem, including a framework for fractional aircraft ownership and efforts to classify aircraft as an infrastructure asset,

Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu said on Friday.

Speaking at the Aircraft Leasing and Financing Summit 2.0 in GIFT City, Naidu said the Ministry is in discussions with the Finance Ministry to create a regulatory framework that could allow fractional ownership models in aviation.

"We are actively working on some forward-looking concepts including fractional ownership in aviation. We are trying to create a policy so that fractional ownership becomes a reality in our country," Naidu said.

He added the government is also examining ways to classify aircraft as infrastructure assets, a move that could potentially open up access to long-term institutional financing for the sector.

"Fractional ownership and taking aircraft as an infrastructure asset are two things which are work in progress," the Minister said.

SEAPLANE OPERATIONS

The comments come at a time when Indian airlines are in the midst of one of the world's largest fleet expansion programmes, with carriers collectively ordering more than 1,600 aircraft and increasingly looking to route leasing and financing activity through Gujarat's GIFT IFSC.

Naidu also said the govern-



Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu with Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel on Friday.

ment is preparing to restart seaplane operations in India, with services likely to begin between Kochi and Lakshadweep in two-weeks time.

"Seaplane operations we are going to start in two weeks between Kochi and Lakshadweep. It was supposed to be quite an impossible task for quite some time. The Ministry has streamlined the guidelines and we are proud to say that very soon India is going to see seaplane operations back on its map," he said.

He added that the move could create new opportunities for aircraft and seaplane leasing companies.

AIR INDIA CRASH

The Civil Aviation Minister also said that investigation into the Air India airplane crash in Ahmedabad is underway in a "transparent" manner.

"It is our effort to see that the investigation concludes as soon as possible. The investigation process is in the final stages and is expected to take one more month. We are constantly monitoring the situation, and we have told the airline that they should interact (with the families), and clear the compensation. There is a cell in the Ministry that is monitoring the situation. If there are any other problems, the Ministry will try to facilitate talks through the airline," Naidu said.

एयर इंडिया ने कर्मचारियों से कहा - खर्चों का ध्यान रखें

एयर इंडिया के सीईओ और एमडी कैंपबेल विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को कर्मचारियों से कहा कि वे खर्चों पर लगातार ध्यान बनाए रखें, क्योंकि पाकिस्तान का एयरस्पेस लंबे समय तक बंद रहने और पश्चिम एशिया में चल रहे संघर्ष के कारण विमानन ईंधन (एटीएम) की कीमतों में हाल में हुई बढ़ोतरी से कंपनी पर दबाव बढ़ गया है।

वहीं, प्रमुख मानव संसाधन अधिकारी (सीएचआरओ) रवींद्र कुमार जीपी ने कर्मचारियों को बताया कि किसी की भी छंटनी नहीं की जाएगी, लेकिन सालाना वेतन

वृद्धि को कम से कम एक तिमाही के लिए टाला जाएगा।

टाउनहॉल में मौजूद सूत्रों के अनुसार विल्सन ने एयरलाइन के कर्मचारियों की मौजूदगी में कहा कि विमानन उद्योग को कई गंभीर बाहरी चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। इनमें पाकिस्तान के एयरस्पेस का लगातार बंद रहना, संघर्ष के कारण पश्चिम एशिया में पैदा हुई रुकावटें, रुपये की कीमत में भारी गिरावट और विमानन ईंधन की कीमतों में पहले के मुकाबले 2.5 से 3 गुना तक की बढ़ोतरी शामिल है।

बीएस

Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Air India delays increments, asks staff to cut costs

CHRO assures there would be no layoffs

DEEPAK PATEL
New Delhi, 8 May

Air India Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) Campbell Wilson on Friday asked employees to maintain a "relentless focus on costs" amid pressure from the prolonged closure of Pakistan airspace and a recent surge in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices due to the West Asia conflict. Meanwhile, Chief Human Resources Officer



Campbell Wilson, Air India MD & CEO, urged employees to eliminate 'wastage and leakages' amid rising fuel cost

(CHRO) Ravindra Kumar GP told the staff that there would be no layoffs though annual salary increments would be deferred by at least one quarter.

Wilson, while speaking at a townhall attended by employees across the airline, said the aviation industry was facing severe external headwinds, including the continued closure of Pakistan airspace, disruptions across West Asia because of the conflict, a sharp depreciation of the rupee, and a 2.5-3 times increase in jet fuel prices compared to earlier levels, according to sources who were present at the townhall.

"These factors have adversely affected travel sentiment and consumer confidence," Wilson said, according to sources.

In normal circumstances, ATF accounts for about 40 per cent of an Indian airline's operating cost. However, after the sharp rise in fuel prices recently, ATF now makes up nearly 50-60 per cent of operating costs for Indian carriers. A weaker rupee further adds to pressure on airlines because major expenses such as aircraft leasing, maintenance, and a large portion of fuel payments are denominated in dollars.

"We need to focus relentlessly on our costs in these tough times,"

Wilson said at the townhall. He asked employees to suspend discretionary spending, renegotiate rates where possible, and defer non-critical expenditure.

"There must be a laser sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages," he added, while asking teams to continue improving customer experience in a cost-conscious manner.

The townhall came a day after the Air India board reviewed the airline's financial performance, cost management measures, and succession planning for the next CEO at a meeting chaired by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran.

During Friday's townhall, Ravindra Kumar GP said Air India would proceed with variable pay for the previous financial year and continue with planned promotions.

"We don't anticipate layoffs," the CHRO said, while noting that annual increments would be postponed by at least one quarter because of the uncertain economic environment.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Sanjay Sharma said during the townhall that Air India had seen strong revenue growth and fleet expansion through FY25, but FY26 had witnessed softer revenue because of external uncertainties.

Under-recovery of ₹30K cr per month on LPG, fuel sales: Govt

SHUBHANGI MATHUR
New Delhi, 8 May

State-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) are incurring under-recovery of ₹30,000 crore per month on the sale of petrol, diesel and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), as the firms keep retail prices largely unchanged despite soaring crude oil prices, said a government official on Friday.

Benchmark Brent crude has been trading around \$100 a barrel amid the ongoing tensions in West Asia and continued closure of the Strait of Hormuz, which has disrupted energy flows from the Gulf countries. Oil marketers at home have kept retail prices of petrol and diesel unchanged so far, but hiked rates of other fuels such as commercial LPG, bulk diesel, and premium auto fuels.

On May 1, OMCs raised prices of several fuel products, including commercial LPG cylinders by ₹993 per cylinder, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) for international flights by ₹76.55 per kilo-litre, bulk diesel by ₹12 per litre, and 5-kg free trade LPG cylinders by ₹261.5 per cylinder. However, prices of non-branded petrol and diesel remained unchanged in the country, while domestic LPG prices were raised by ₹60 per 14.2-kg cylinder in early March.

At an inter-ministerial briefing, Sujata Sharma, joint secretary at the ministry of petroleum and natural gas (MoPNG), said the finances of OMCs are coming under pressure as they are procuring crude oil and gas at elevated costs while continuing to sell refined fuels at comparatively lower rates.

The government is bearing a burden of ₹14,000 crore per month with the recent cut in excise duty on petrol and diesel, added Sharma.

The government has so far maintained there is no proposal under consideration to increase petrol and diesel prices. However, following the



The government has so far maintained there is no proposal under consideration to increase petrol and diesel prices

conclusion of state elections in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, speculation has intensified over a possible hike in fuel rates.

In late April, an Indian brokerage, Kotak Institutional Equities, had said in a report retail fuel prices may be hiked by ₹25-28 per litre in the country after state elections, based on Indian crude basket of \$120 per barrel and low fixed margins on sale of petrol and diesel. Oil ministry termed the report as "fake news", alleging it was intended to create "fear and panic" among the public.

The government has earlier said the OMCs are incurring losses of around ₹20 per litre on petrol and nearly ₹100 per litre on diesel. In late March, the government had slashed excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹10 a litre.

Although India's fuel marketing companies have kept retail prices of petrol and diesel unchanged despite crude oil prices crossing the \$100-per-barrel mark, they had also refrained from cutting prices for an extended period even when crude oil prices had fallen to as low as \$70 per barrel.

Presently, petrol and diesel are sold at ₹94.77 per litre and ₹87.67 a litre, respectively, in Delhi.





Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

8 MAY 2026



Air India board meets amid war headwinds

NEW DELHI, PTI: Air India's board of directors held a meeting on Thursday amid the loss-making airline facing multiple headwinds, including high jet fuel prices, due to the West Asia conflict.

The board meeting took place at Air India's headquarters in Gurugram. It started at around 11.30 am and went on for over three hours, sources said. Specific details about the discussions could not be ascertained. Earlier, sources had said the airline's financials for 2025-26, cost-saving measures and selection of a new CEO were expected to be discussed at the meeting.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

अकासा एयरलाइंस 16 जून से नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से शुरू करेगी उड़ान

जासं, ग्रेटर नोएडा: इंडिगो के बाद अकासा एयरलाइंस भी 16 जून से नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से उड़ान शुरू करेगी। इसके लिए जल्द फ्लाइट शेड्यूल घोषित व टिकट की बुकिंग शुरू होने की संभावना है। देश के कुछ और शहर नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से विमान सेवा से जुड़ जाएंगे। एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस और कर्गो सेवा शुरू करने के लिए अभी तिथि घोषित होना शेष है।

नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लि.(नायल) के सीईओ राकेश कुमार सिंह का कहना है कि 16 जून से उड़ान सेवा शुरू करने जा रही अकासा का फ्लाइट शेड्यूल जल्द घोषित होने के साथ टिकट की बुकिंग भी शुरू हो जाएगी। इसके साथ देश के कुछ और शहरों के लिए नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से विमान सेवा उपलब्ध हो जाएगी।

एअर इंडिया ने वेतन वृद्धि तीन माह टाली

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस: पश्चिम एशिया संकट के कारण विमान ईंधन महंगा हो गया है, जिससे विमानन कंपनियों की लागत बढ़ गई है। इससे निपटने के लिए कंपनियां विभिन्न उपाय कर रही हैं। इस बीच एअर इंडिया ने शुक्रवार को अपने कर्मचारियों से गैर-आवश्यक खर्चों को टालने के लिए कहा। साथ ही कंपनी ने कहा कि कर्मचारियों की वार्षिक वेतन वृद्धि को कम से कम एक तिमाही के लिए स्थगित किया जाएगा। सूत्रों के अनुसार, एअर इंडिया ने कर्मचारियों को आश्वासित किया है कि छंटनी की कोई उम्मीद नहीं है।

एक टाउनहाल को संबोधित करते हुए विमानन कंपनी के सीईओ और प्रबंध निदेशक कैपबेल विल्सन ने कहा कि कंपनी कुछ रूट्स पर उड़ानों की संख्या कम करने या सेवाओं को रोकने पर विचार करेगी। इसका कारण यह है कि कुछ उड़ानें या तो पहले जितनी लाभदायक नहीं हैं या फिर एयरस्पेस की पाबंदियों के कारण घाटे में चल रही हैं। एअर



- कुछ रूट्स पर सेवाएं रोकने पर भी विचार करेगी विमानन कंपनी
- कंपनी के सीएचआरओ ने कहा, हमें छंटनी की कोई उम्मीद नहीं

इंडिया के ब्रेडे में अभी लगभग 190 विमान हैं। वित्त वर्ष वर्ष के दौरान कंपनी ने हर सप्ताह लगभग 8,000 उड़ानें संचालित कीं। विल्सन ने कहा कि रुपये में तेज गिरावट हो रही है और जेट ईंधन की कीमतों में 2.5-3 गुना वृद्धि हुई है। एअर इंडिया समूह का अनुमान है कि उसे वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 के दौरान 22 हजार करोड़ से अधिक का नुकसान हुआ है।

योजनाबद्ध पदोन्नति जारी रखेगी कंपनी : कंपनी के मुख्य मानव संसाधन अधिकारी (सीएचआरओ) रविंद्र कुमार ने बताया कि एयरलाइन पिछले वित्त वर्ष के लिए परिवर्तनीय वेतन जारी रखेगी और योजनाबद्ध

पदोन्नतियों को जारी रखेगी। वार्षिक वृद्धि को कम से कम एक तिमाही के लिए स्थगित किया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि हम छंटनी की उम्मीद नहीं करते। इससे पहले गुरुवार को एयरलाइन की बोर्ड बैठक में भी विभिन्न लागत-बचत के कदमों पर चर्चा हुई थी। इसमें कर्मचारियों को बिना वेतन छुट्टी पर भेजना भी शामिल है। टाटा समूह के स्वामित्व वाली एअरलाइन के पास लगभग 24,000 कर्मचारी हैं।



मित्रों से जुड़ी खबरें और अपडेट के लिए स्कैन करें या विजिट करें jagran.com

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

8 MAY 2026

तेज हवा में फंसा विमान, पूर्व मंत्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी ने लखनऊ में सुरक्षित उतारा

जासं, लखनऊ: दिल्ली से पटना जा रहा इंडिगो एयरलाइंस का एक विमान बुधवार रात खराब मौसम और टर्बुलेंस (तेज हवा के झोंके) की चपेट में आकर संकट में फंस गया। विमान की कमान संभाल रहे पूर्व केंद्रीय मंत्री और प्रोफेशनल पायलट राजीव प्रताप रूडी ने सूझबूझ का परिचय देते हुए विमान को लखनऊ के चौधरी चरण सिंह अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर सुरक्षित लैंड कराया। 181 यात्री और चालक दल के चार सदस्य सवार थे।

इंडिगो का विमान 6ई-6497 बुधवार रात 8:36 बजे दिल्ली से पटना के लिए रवाना हुआ था। पटना पहुंचने से पहले ही विमान तेज हवाओं के झोंके में फंस गया, जिससे यात्रियों में अफरा-तफरी मच गई। विमान को वाराणसी डायवर्ट किया गया, वहां भी स्थिति सामान्य नहीं थी। अंततः पायलट ने लखनऊ एटीसी से संपर्क किया और रात 10:49 बजे विमान की सुरक्षित लैंडिंग कराई। विमान जब लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट के स्टैंड नंबर 11 पर

- पटना जा रहे विमान के कैप्टन थे रूडी, 181 यात्री थे सवार
- पटना व वाराणसी में मौसम के चलते नहीं हो सकी लैंडिंग



लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट पर उतरने के बाद स्टैंड में खड़ा पटना जा रहा इंडिगो एयरलाइन का विमान ●

आकर स्थिर हुआ, तब पायलट की वर्दी में राजीव प्रताप रूडी केबिन से बाहर आए। उन्होंने कहा, 'अब आप ताली बजा सकते हैं, आप सुरक्षित लैंड कर चुके हैं।' इस घटना का वीडियो इंटरनेट मीडिया पर जमकर प्रसारित हो रहा है। लखनऊ में लैंडिंग के बाद पटना जाने वाले तीन यात्री यहीं उतर गए। शेष 178 यात्रियों को लेकर विमान रात 12:30 बजे पटना के लिए रवाना हुआ।

तेज आंधी के साथ बारिश ओलावृष्टि, तीन की मौत

जागरण टीम, लखनऊ: मौसम मिजाज गुरुवार को भी बदला रहा। कई हिस्सों में आंधी-पानी के साथ ओलावृष्टि हुई। इस दौरान हमीरपुर, उन्नाव व महोबा में एक एक व्यक्ति की मौत हो गई। मौसम विभाग के अनुसार शुक्रवार को भी कुछ इलाकों में गरज-चमक के साथ हल्की बारिश और बौछारे पड़ सकती है। इस दौरान 40 से 50 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से तेज हवा चलने की भी संभावना है। उन्नाव में आंधी के तेज झोंके के दौरान छत से नीचे उतर रहे प्रधान के चाचा की गिरकर मौत हो गई। 354 से अधिक गांवों की बिजली गुल रही। महोबा में ओलावृष्टि के बीच बिजली गिरने से किसान की मौत हो गई। हमीरपुर के मौदहा में बारिश व आंधी से एक मकान की दीवार गिरने से उसमें दबकर एक वृद्ध महिला की मौत हो गई। बिजली व्यवस्था भी धड़ाम हो गई है। उरई में खरीद केंद्रों में रखा 25 हजार विक्टल गेहूँ भीग गया।



Corporate Communications Directorate

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DELHI

9 MAY 2026

OUTGOING CEO CAMPBELL WILSON INDICATES AT SOFTENING OF REVENUE FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR

Tighten Belts, Geopolitical Space is Turbulent, AI Chief Tells Staff

Airline to defer salary hikes at least by a quarter, freeze discretionary spend

Forum Gandhi

Mumbai: Air India's outgoing chief executive Campbell Wilson is pushing for a "relentless" suppression of expenditure, signalling that the carrier's aggressive post-privatisation expansion is hitting a wall of geopolitical and commodity-driven headwinds.

Addressing staff in a town hall on Friday, Wilson forecast a softening in revenue this fiscal year, a reversal from Air India's 40% compound annual growth rate since the Tata Group assumed control in 2022, people told ET.

The carrier is navigating a convergence of external shocks: the prolonged closure of Pakistan's



airspace, the Iran war, a weaker rupee, and jet fuel prices trading at 2.5 to 3 times previous levels.

The move to fiscal austerity marks a critical inflection point for India's former flag carrier. Having committed to multi-billion-dollar orders for 470 planes and a total cabin overhaul to challenge Gulf rivals, Air India is now facing a liquidity test.

He said the management must execute a high-stakes balancing act: stripping out "wastage and leakages"

to protect the balance sheet while ensuring that cost-cutting doesn't derail a fragile improvement in service standards and operational reliability.

Wilson's directive mandates an immediate freeze on discretionary spending and a requirement to renegotiate vendor rates. The airline will defer annual salary increments by at least a quarter to preserve cash, though it will honour variable pay for the previous fiscal.

Chief human resources officer Ravindra Kumar GP confirmed the company isn't anticipating layoffs as he sought to stabilise internal sentiment.

CFO Sanjay Sharma said while FY25 benefited from rapid fleet deployment, FY26 saw a more volatile demand environment. In response, Air India is aggressively optimising its network, eliminating route overlaps with low-cost unit Air India Express, and expanding its Southeast Asia feeder network to seven destinations from two.

Despite the fiscal tightening, the airline reported underlying operational gains. Domestic on-time performance rose to 76% in FY26, up from 73% a year earlier. More critically, the carrier's net promoter score (NPS)—a measure of customer loyalty—reached 30 in March 2026, a recovery from the negative 19 recorded in 2023. Air India has completed the retrofit of its legacy narrowbody fleet and commenced work on widebody aircraft, with the first refurbished long-haul jet already back in service.



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THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

ENTITY MAY EVENTUALLY FUND BULK OF THE FLEET

Akasa Air Sets up Aircraft Leasing Unit in GIFT City

Our Bureau

Mumbai: Akasa Air has set up an aircraft leasing unit at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, joining other homegrown carriers shifting financing structures to the country's emerging aviation finance hub. The move underscores airlines' efforts to access capital for fleet expansion and the government's push to secure the lucrative aircraft leasing business routed through overseas centres.

The budget airline said on Friday it had incorporated Akasa Air Leasing IFSC at GIFT City in Gandhinagar. The unit will support aircraft financing and leasing activities and eventually fund a majority of Akasa's fleet.

Aircraft leasing allows airlines to add planes to their fleets without buying the aircraft outright. Akasa, like most other budget airlines worldwide, follows an asset light

model wherein it acquires a new aircraft at an attractive price from manufacturers and immediately sells it to a lessor at a profit, subsequently leasing it back for its operations. Income from the sale-and-

leaseback deal helps an airline to generate cash, crucial to run operations in an intensely-competitive market.



Akasa joins Air India and IndiGo in establishing leasing structures at GIFT City in Gujarat

Akasa joins Air India and IndiGo in establishing leasing structures at GIFT City, part of the government's effort to build a domestic aircraft financing ecosystem and reduce reliance on hubs such as Ireland and Singapore. "GIFT City is a key enabler of Akasa Air's next phase of growth," Priya Mehra, chief of governance and strategic acquisitions at Akasa Air, said.



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THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Ahmedabad Crash Report Likely in a Month, says Naidu



Gandhinagar:

The investigation into the tragic Air India crash in Ahmedabad, which claimed 260

lives last year, is in the last stages and the report is expected within a month, union aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu said on Friday.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event at GIFT City here, Naidu promised to address the grievances of the Ahmedabad plane crash victims' families and said a special ministry cell is coordinating compensation for the June 2025 disaster.

"Investigation is going on very strongly. We have to understand one thing that when foreign nationals were travelling on the plane that crashed, it (the probe report) will be up for scrutiny by any country. Any country or organisation can raise questions," Naidu said. — PTI

Air India to delay hikes amid rising cost burden

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, May 8

AIR INDIA WILL defer annual salary increments by at least one quarter and tighten spending controls as mounting external pressures, including higher fuel costs, currency depreciation and airspace disruptions, weigh on the airline's operations and revenue outlook, according to people aware of developments.

Addressing employees at a townhall on Friday, Air India CEO Campbell Wilson said the airline needed a relentless focus on costs amid a difficult operating environment marked by geopolitical uncertainty and rising input costs. The townhall was attended by Chief Human Resources Officer Ravindra Kumar GP and Chief Financial Officer Sanjay Sharma.

Ravindra Kumar GP told employees that the airline would proceed with variable pay for the last financial year and continue with planned promotions, but annual increments would be postponed because of the uncertain economic environment. "We don't anticipate layoffs," he said, according to sources.

Wilson said the aviation sector continued to face significant external headwinds, including the prolonged closure of Pakistan airspace, disruptions and airspace closures across West Asia, sharp depreciation in the rupee and a 2.5-3 times increase in jet fuel prices. These developments, he said, had adversely affected travel sentiment and consumer confidence.

Air India to delay hikes

JET FUEL REMAINS one of the largest components of airline operating costs and its volatility has increased pressure on international operations, particularly as carriers deal with longer flight durations and rerouting costs arising from airspace restrictions. "We need to focus relentlessly on our costs in these tough times," Wilson said. He asked employees to suspend discretionary spending, renegotiate rates wherever feasible and defer non-critical expenditure. "There must be a laser sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages," he said, while adding that the airline would continue efforts to improve customer experience in a cost-conscious manner.

The airline's management also indicated that revenue growth had moderated in FY26 amid heightened uncertainty. CFO Sanjay Sharma said that while strong revenue growth and fleet expansion drove financial momentum through FY25,

FY26 has seen a softening in revenue amid heightened external uncertainties. This follows a period of robust performance, with Air India delivering an approximate 40% CAGR in revenue between 2022, when the airline was privatised, and 2025.

The management, highlighted operational improvements and network expansion undertaken over the past year. Wilson said Air India had completed the retrofit of its legacy narrowbody fleet and started work on retrofitting widebody aircraft, with the first upgraded aircraft already re-entering service. The airline also undertook network optimisation measures aimed at redeploying capacity more efficiently, strengthened its India-Europe and India-Far East operations and deepened synergies with Air India Express by removing overlapping routes and improving network efficiency. Its Southeast Asia feeder network was expanded from two destinations to seven.

Continued on Page 7

'India seeks to complement global aircraft leasing hubs'



Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu (left) and Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel during the India Aircraft Leasing & Financing Summit 2.0 at GIFT City, in Gandhinagar on Friday PTI

● Air India crash report is expected within a month

FE BUREAU
Gandhinagar, May 8

UNION CIVIL AVIATION Minister Rammohan Naidu on Friday said India does not seek to compete with established global aircraft leasing hubs, but to complement them, and the country is committed to creating the right ecosystem.

Naidu further stated that the government is closely monitoring the West Asia crisis to ensure that the aviation sector remains insulated from disruptions.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event at GIFT City in Gandhinagar, he said, "The scale of the global aircraft leasing market, and particularly the India-related portion of that market, is large enough to accommodate multiple private sectors across the world...The globe has been so strongly connected that we can have multiple regional centres across the

world, and India wants to be a strong player in that. We want to be a global player, but at the same time complementing the global industry," he said.

He highlighted that the government had recently announced a ₹5,000-crore credit line guarantee scheme to ease liquidity pressures faced by airlines. Referring to other measures taken by the government, he said that the monthly increase in aviation turbine fuel prices had been capped at 25%, while airports had reduced landing and parking charges by 25%.

The investigation into the tragic Air India crash in Ahmedabad, which claimed 260 lives last year, is in the last stages and the report is expected within a month, Naidu said.

"Investigation is going on very strongly. We have to understand one thing that when foreign nationals were travelling on the plane that crashed, it (the probe report) will be up for scrutiny by any country. Any country or organisation can raise questions," Naidu said.

(With PTI inputs)





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THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

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9 MAY 2026



● A NEW LEASE

Union Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu

The scale of the global aircraft leasing market, and particularly the India-related portion of that market, is large enough to accommodate multiple private sectors across the world



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

एयर इंडिया विमान हादसे की रिपोर्ट जल्द

गांधीनगर। केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री राममोहन नायडू ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि अहमदाबाद विमान हादसे की जांच आखिरी चरण में है। माहभर में रिपोर्ट आने की उम्मीद है। पिछले साल हुए इस विमान हादसे में 260 लोगों की मौत हो गई थी। यहां 'गिफ्ट सिटी' में एक समारोह में नायडू ने अहमदाबाद विमान दुर्घटना में मारे गए लोगों के परिवारों की शिकायतों को दूर करने का वादा किया। विशेष प्रकोष्ठ जून, 2025 के हादसे के लिए मुआवजे के मुद्दे पर समन्वय कर रहा है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

एयर इंडिया ने वेतन वृद्धि को एक तिमाही तक टाला

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। एयर इंडिया के सीईओ कैपबेल विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को कर्मचारियों को गैर-जरूरी खर्चों पर लगाम लगाने और अनावश्यक खर्चों को टालने का निर्देश दिया।

सूत्रों ने कहा कि विल्सन ने इस समय के मुश्किल हालात में एयरलाइन की लागत घटाने की जरूरत पर जोर देते हुए यह निर्देश जारी किया है।

इसके साथ ही पश्चिम एशिया में जारी संघर्ष के कारण कई चुनौतियों से जूझ रही एयर इंडिया के प्रबंधन ने कर्मचारियों की छंटनी की आशंका से इनकार किया। विल्सन ने एयरलाइन के मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी (सीएफओ)

संजय शर्मा और मुख्य मानव संसाधन अधिकारी रवींद्र कुमार जीपी के साथ कर्मचारियों को संबोधित करते हुए यह निर्देश दिए।

सूत्रों के मुताबिक, रवींद्र कुमार ने कहा कि कंपनी पिछले वित्त वर्ष के लिए 'परिवर्तनीय वेतन' (वेरिअबल पे) जारी रखेगी और तय पदोन्नतियों को भी लागू करेगी। हालांकि अनिश्चित आर्थिक माहौल को देखते हुए वार्षिक वेतन वृद्धि को कम से कम एक तिमाही के लिए टाल दिया जाएगा। इसके साथ ही मानव संसाधन प्रमुख ने कहा, हम कर्मचारियों की छंटनी की आशंका नहीं देख रहे हैं।



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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

IndiGo flight makes emergency landing

LUCKNOW: Adverse weather forced an IndiGo Kolkata-Patna flight to make an emergency landing at Lucknow airport on Friday, airport officials said.

According to airport officials, weather conditions in Patna deteriorated suddenly on Friday afternoon, affecting flight operations.

IndiGo flight 6E 6917 from Kolkata, which was scheduled to land in Patna at 3.50 pm, could

not land due to bad weather and kept circling in the air after failing to get clearance from air traffic control, they said.

The flight was later diverted to Lucknow and landed safely at the Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport at around 5.15 pm. There were 180 passengers and six crew members on board, officials said.

The aircraft was later allowed to depart for Patna.

PTI

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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

AI-171 crash report expected within a month: Minister

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

AHMEDABAD: The investigation into the Air India Flight AI 171 crash that killed 260 people in Ahmedabad last year is in its final stage, and the report is expected within a month, Union civil aviation minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu said on Friday.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event at GIFT City, Naidu said, "Investigation is going on very strongly. We have to understand one thing that when foreign nationals were travelling on the plane that crashed, it will be up for scrutiny by any country. Any country or organisation can raise questions."

The minister said the Centre is addressing concerns raised by families of the victims and that a dedicated ministry cell is coordinating compensation related to the June 2025 crash.

On June 12, 2025, the Air India flight AI 171, operated by a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner and bound for London Gatwick, crashed into a medical college hostel complex shortly after take-off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport. The aircraft caught fire on impact. Of the 242 peo-



Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu

ple on board, 241 died, along with 19 people on the ground.

"The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau is conducting independent investigations and, whatever resources they have asked for, we have been providing," Naidu said.

Addressing the inaugural session of India Aircraft Leasing and Financing Summit 2.0 at GIFT City on Friday, Naidu said that India's aviation sector is transforming at a pace that is catching the attention of the entire world, and the ecosystem that India builds enables not just the country but the region surrounding it.

"Today, around 85% of the aircraft in our scheduled fleet are on lease. With aviation demand in India increasing rapidly, we want to ensure that this leasing activity happens within India itself, especially from GIFT City," he said.

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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Air India tells staff will defer annual increments

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Air India will defer employee annual increments by at least one quarter as part of broader cost-rationalising measures driven by an uncertain economic environment, its senior executives told employees at a townhall on Friday.

The airline does not anticipate layoffs, chief human resources officer Ravindra Kumar GP said.

The announcement was made at a meeting addressed by Air India chief executive officer Campbell Wilson, alongside Kumar and chief financial officer Sanjay Sharma.

"We will continue to pay the performance-related variable pay for last year, that's decided — the increment for this year we will defer. We will consider as the environment evolves over the course of the year if and when we can pay it. We have budgeted to pay it when the environment gets better, but we are going to withhold it for now...We do not anticipate any need for retrenchments," Wilson said.

Wilson highlighted external challenges affecting the aviation sector, including the continued closure of Pakistani airspace, geopolitical conflicts leading to disruptions and airspace closures across West Asia, a sharp depreciation of the rupee, and a threefold increase in jet fuel prices.

"...we weren't targeting a profit this year, we were targeting a certain amount of loss. We lost more than we were targeting to lose, if you get what I'm say-



The airline said it does not expect any layoffs. REUTERS

ing, but the point is that we achieved 56% of what we had set out to do on the financial front," he said.

Wilson urged employees to suspend discretionary spending, renegotiate rates where feasible, and defer non-critical expenditures.

"We need to focus relentlessly on our costs in these tough times," the CEO said. "There must be a laser sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages."

Detailing the airline's recovery efforts, Wilson stated, "There are many things that we have been doing and will continue to do to build our revenues on the cost side of the equation. It is increasing our scale, so we are spreading our fixed costs across a higher capacity base. It is adopting more technology so that we're not just doing things less manually, but we are able to do things more efficiently. It is getting new aircraft that are more fuel efficient to replace the old aircraft."

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

● THE TATA-OWNED CARRIER IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE SUFFERED A LOSS OF ABOUT RS 22,000 CRORE IN 2025-26

Air India defers pay hikes amid focus on saving costs

Sukalp Sharma

New Delhi, May 8

THE AIR India has deferred the annual increments by at least one quarter while assuring its employees that it was not anticipating any layoffs, as the airline called for a “relentless” focus on saving costs in the face of mounting losses.

The Tata-owned carrier is estimated to have suffered a loss of about Rs 22,000 crore in the financial year 2026 (FY26). It was more than double the loss in FY25, primarily due to the extremely challenging cost and operating environment, it is learnt.

According to sources, the

airline also announced that it will proceed with bonuses for the last financial year and implement the planned staff promotions.

The airline's board held a meeting on Thursday, in which cost-optimisation measures were deliberated.

A day later, chief executive officer Campbell Wilson, chief human resources officer Ravindra Kumar GP, and chief financial officer Sanjay Sharma addressed employees in a town hall meeting.

For the time being, more drastic cost rationalisation measures like furloughs and layoffs have not been taken, it is learnt. Air India has an em-



For now, more drastic cost rationalisation measures like furloughs and layoffs have not been taken by the airline. REUTERS

ployee strength of about 24,000. The Tata group took control of Air India from the government in January 2022.

According to sources with direct knowledge of the matter, Wilson spoke about the significant external challenges that the airline industry is grappling with, and the impact of those challenges on Air India.

“We need to focus relentlessly on our costs in these tough times... There must be a laser sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages,” Wilson is learnt to have told the Air India staff on Friday.

He also asked them to suspend discretionary spending, renegotiate rates where feasible, and defer non-critical expenditures.

The West Asia war, which began on February 28, has led

to major airspace disruptions in the Gulf region, which accounts for a significant chunk of international air traffic to and from India.

The region also serves as a critical corridor for Air India's flights to Europe and North America, which means that apart from disrupting operations to destinations in West Asia, the war has forced the airline to take longer, circuitous routes to Europe and beyond.

This is leading to higher operating costs, particularly due to additional fuel burn at a time when jet fuel prices are also surging due to war-related supply disruptions.

FULL REPORT ON

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM



Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

भारत विमानों को पट्टे पर देने में एक प्रमुख केंद्र बनने का इच्छुक : नायडू

नई दिल्ली, 8 मई (ब्यूरो)।

नागर विमानन मंत्री राममोहन नायडू ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि भारत, विमानों को पट्टे पर देने वाले वैश्विक लीजिंग केंद्रों से प्रतिस्पर्धा करने के बजाय उनके पूरक के तौर पर काम करते हुए मजबूत घरेलू परिवेश विकसित करने पर ध्यान दे रहा है।

नायडू ने गांधीनगर के गिफ्ट सिटी में आयोजित 'इंडिया एयरक्राफ्ट लीजिंग एंड फाइनेंसिंग समिट 2.0' के उद्घाटन सत्र को संबोधित करते हुए कहा, भारत का विमानन क्षेत्र तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहा है और यह न केवल देश बल्कि आसपास के क्षेत्र को भी सक्षम बना सकता है। उन्होंने कहा कि वैश्विक विमान पट्टा बाजार, खासकर भारत से जुड़े हिस्से का आकार इतना बड़ा है कि दुनिया की कई निजी कंपनियां इसका हिस्सा बन सकती हैं।

यात्रा

गर्मी की छट्टियों पर महंगाई की मार

लेह से लेकर यूरोप तक हवाई सफर हुआ महंगा

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्या। गर्मियों की छुट्टियों में घूमने का प्लान बना रहे यात्रियों को इस बार महंगाई का बड़ा झटका लगा है। घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय दोनों रूटों पर हवाई किराया 40 से 50 फीसदी तक बढ़ गया है, जिससे विदेश ट्रिप पर जाने वाले लोगों का बजट पूरी तरह बिगड़ गया है। जेट फ्यूल की महंगी कीमतें, एयरस्पेस में रुकावटें और उड़ानों की कम होती क्षमता ने टिकटों को बेहद महंगा बना दिया है। ऐसे में अब लोग यूरोप-अमेरिका की जगह दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया और घरेलू हिल स्टेशनों का रुख कर रहे हैं।

एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, दिल्ली से लेह जाने वाली फ्लाइट का किराया सालाना आधार पर करीब 74 फीसदी बढ़ गया है। वहीं, श्रीनगर

● जेट फ्यूल की बढ़ती कीमतों के चलते हवाई कंपनियों ने बढ़ाया किराया, देश-विदेश की यात्रा का बिगड़ रहा बजट

और शिमला के टिकट 60 से 68 फीसदी तक महंगे हो चुके हैं। भीषण गर्मी और हीटवेव के बीच लोग बड़ी संख्या में ठंडी जगहों का रुख कर रहे हैं, जिससे मांग तेजी से बढ़ी है।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय रूटों पर भी हालात अलग नहीं हैं। लंदन और पेरिस की उड़ानों का किराया 53 फीसदी तक बढ़ गया है, जबकि सिडनी के लिए टिकट लगभग 38 फीसदी महंगे हो चुके हैं। थाईलैंड और सिंगापुर जैसे लोकप्रिय डेस्टिनेशन भी इस बार यात्रियों की जेब पर भारी पड़ रहे हैं। इन जगहों के किराए में 40 फीसदी



से ज्यादा की बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई है।

एयरलाइंस इंडस्ट्री के जानकारों का कहना है कि इस बढ़ोतरी के पीछे कई बड़े कारण हैं। सबसे अहम वजह जेट फ्यूल की कीमतों में तेज उछाल है। अप्रैल के आखिरी सप्ताह में वैश्विक जेट फ्यूल की कीमत 179 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच गई, जो फरवरी के मुकाबले करीब 80 फीसदी ज्यादा है। इसके अलावा पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव और एयरस्पेस बंद होने की वजह से कई उड़ानों को लंबे रूट से उड़ान भरनी

पड़ रही है, जिससे ईंधन खर्च और ऑपरेशनल लागत दोनों बढ़ गए हैं।

उधर, एयरलाइंस की क्षमता में कटौती ने भी किरायों को ऊपर पहुंचा दिया है। वैश्विक एविएशन डेटा कंपनी के मुताबिक, इंडिगो ने मई में अपनी अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों की क्षमता फरवरी के मुकाबले 17 फीसदी घटा दी है। वहीं, एयर इंडिया भी घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय रूटों पर रोजाना करीब 100 उड़ानों में कटौती कर सकती है। इसका असर खासतौर पर यूरोप, अमेरिका, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और सिंगापुर जाने वाले यात्रियों पर पड़ने वाला है।

महंगे टिकटों के कारण अब भारतीय यात्रियों का ट्रेवल पैटर्न भी बदलने लगा है। ट्रेवल कंपनियों के मुताबिक, लोग लंबी दूरी की महंगी

यात्राओं से बच रहे हैं और अब कम दूरी वाले बीजा-फ्री या बजट फ्रेडली देशों को प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं। थाईलैंड, वियतनाम, श्रीलंका, नेपाल और मलेशिया जैसे देशों की मांग तेजी से बढ़ी है। क्लियरट्रिप के अनुसार, फिलीपींस के लिए बुकिंग तीन गुना तक बढ़ चुकी है।

घरेलू पर्यटन में भी जबरदस्त उछाल देखने को मिल रहा है। ऋषिकेश, लेह, वाराणसी और पूर्वोत्तर के शहरों जैसे शिलांग, गुवाहाटी और इंफाल के लिए बुकिंग तेजी से बढ़ी है।

आंकड़ों के अनुसार, हिल स्टेशनों के लिए एडवांस बुकिंग में 38 फीसदी की बढ़ोतरी हुई है, जबकि कूर्ग के लिए मई की बुकिंग 115 फीसदी तक बढ़ चुकी है।

IndiGo, Air India oppose high user fee at new airports

Abhishek Law
abhishek.law@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

India's top airlines, IndiGo and Air India, have opposed proposals by the country's newest airports to raise passenger charges in their submissions to the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (Aera), which *Mint* has reviewed.

The two airlines warned that a steep increase in user development fee (UDF) could slow traffic growth at a time when domestic demand is weakening due to elevated jet fuel prices.

The UDF is a mandatory fee collected through airfares by airlines on behalf of airport operators to fund infrastructure expansion and modernisation of terminals, runways, etc.

Adani-owned Navi Mumbai International Airport Ltd (NMIAL), which started operations in December, levies a UDF of ₹620 on domestic departures and ₹270 on arrivals, which will remain unchanged in FY27.

It has proposed to raise UDF by 20% in FY28 and 10% annually through FY30, resulting in a total increase of about 45% over FY26 levels. A similar hike has been proposed for international passenger charges.

Noida International Airport (NIA), which is expected to



Adani-owned NMIAL started operations in December. *Mint*

begin operations on 15 June, has proposed domestic departure UDF of ₹653 in FY27, rising by about 4% by FY31. International departure charges are set to rise by roughly 45% over the same period, while arrival charges could rise about 40%. Overall, the proposed annual increases range from 7% to 17% across domestic and international passengers, for both departures and arrivals.

These charges are significantly higher than at several other airports.

Delhi airport's domestic departure UDF for economy fares is ₹129, about a fifth of the charge proposed at Navi Mumbai and Noida. Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

TURN TO PAGE 13

IndiGo, Air India oppose high user fee at new airports

FROM PAGE 16

International Airport, also operated by Adani, charges a domestic departure fee of ₹175. Bengaluru's domestic departure fee is ₹550, while Kolkata airport has a tariff of ₹547.

The ad-hoc departure UDF that NMIAL can charge is ₹620, while Noida airport can charge ₹490, minister of state for civil aviation Murlidhar Mohol said in response to a question in the Rajya Sabha on 9 February. The ad-hoc levy is a temporary UDF

that airports are allowed to charge passengers until the regulator finalises the rates.

The Aera, the regulatory body that determines airport tariffs, is reviewing the tariffs proposed by the two greenfield airports for their first five years.

Consultations between airport operators, airlines and other stakeholders, including the regulatory authority, have been underway since April.

In its submission to Aera, Air India said carriers would prioritize "higher yield routes rather than expanding destinations," warranting a reassessment of Noida airport's traffic projections and tariff assumptions.

IndiGo, the country's largest carrier, said tariffs need to remain sustainable, noting that some proposed charges at Navi Mumbai are higher than those at Mumbai and NIA at Jewar.

"We suggest that the escalations in the first control period should not exceed 10% each year to promote growth from the airport," IndiGo said in its



Navi Mumbai, Noida airports' fees are higher than others. *Mint*

submission to Aera. Control period refers to a five-year term during which the Aera determines tariffs at airports.

An NIA spokesperson told *Mint*, "Tariffs at NIA are in line with those at comparable greenfield and brownfield airports in the country. Our tariff model is designed to spread recovery over a longer horizon, which keeps costs sustainable,"

"Navi Mumbai International Airport is a new greenfield airport with significant upfront capital investment. The tariff structure reflects these initial costs, and it is aligned with regulatory tariff norms applicable to similar

airports in India. Additionally, we have proposed levelling the charges between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai Airport in our submissions to the regulator," an NMIAL spokesperson told *Mint*.

Air India and IndiGo did not respond to *Mint*'s queries. Aera is yet to announce the final tariff rates for the two airports.

For an extended version of this story, go to livemint.com.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Air India rules out layoffs, defers raises

Dipali Banka & Abhishek Law
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

Air India has assured its more than 24,000 employees that layoffs are off the table, even as the Tata-backed carrier defers annual salary increments by at least one quarter and tightens spending. The airline has been buffeted by the closure of Pakistan airspace, disruptions due to the West Asia war, and surging jet fuel costs.

"We don't anticipate layoffs," said chief human resources officer (CHRO) Ravindra Kumar G.P., addressing the employees during a town hall on Friday, two people present there told *Mint*.

The country's second-largest airline is battling a string of issues, including rising losses, geopolitical headwinds, macroeconomic factors such as the rupee's depreciation against the dollar, which are impacting costs, and a leadership transition.

The CHRO added that the airline will defer annual increments by at least one quarter in light of the uncertain economic environment and will proceed with variable pay for the last financial year. It will continue with planned promotions too.

Chief executive Campbell Wilson, also present at the town hall, reiterated the need to bring down costs.

dipali.banka@live-mint.com

For an extended version of this story, go to livemint.com.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

India seeks recognition as central hub for international aircraft finance & lease operations: Ram Mohan Naidu

OUR CORRESPONDENT

GANDHINAGAR: The Ministry of Civil Aviation, along with the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), on Friday organised the India Aircraft Leasing and Financing Summit 2.0 at GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

At the gathering, leadership was represented by Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu. In attendance, Gujarat's chief minister, Bhupendra Patel, took part in the role of primary invitee.

Among those present were government officials, banks and key figures from air transport, meeting to explore growth at GIFT IFSC. Development of



the zone into a centre for plane leasing emerged through conversation involving long-term financing models.

One focus stood clear: building frameworks that support cross-border deals in aircraft funding. Participation

included entities with stakes in infrastructure, capital markets and fleet management strategies.

Talks unfolded around regulatory ease, tax design and access to international lenders. A shared view took

shape – not forced but gradual – about positioning the site within worldwide aviation networks. Consideration extended beyond immediate gains toward structural advantages over time.

Speaking to those present, Ram Mohan Naidu noted that India aims to become more than just a rapidly expanding aviation market; it seeks recognition as a central hub for international aircraft finance and lease operations. By 2027, the nation's fleet of commercial planes should total around 1,100 units, rising past 2,250 within eight years after that. At this time, local airlines await delivery of 1,640 planes – this volume may generate roughly 50 billion dollars in prospects for homegrown leasing firms through the coming ten-year

period.

Despite initial challenges, progress emerged through legislative updates such as the 2025 Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Act.

Following that development, coordination improved via the establishment of a dedicated oversight group focused on lease frameworks.

Among the outcomes stood fresh moves in aviation finance. By March 2027, Air India intends to grow its leased fleet to 76 planes; meanwhile, IndiGo targets a rise close to 150.

In parallel, Akasa Air, together with Star Air, unveiled leasing ventures based in GIFT City. Following these steps, shifts in operational scale become evident across carriers.

No layoffs, Air India defers increment on mounting losses

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

AIR INDIA has assured its employees that there would be no layoffs despite mounting losses and ongoing external headwinds such as higher jet fuel prices and airspace closures.

In a town hall held on Friday, the top level management, led by MD & CEO Campbell Wilson, indicated that annual increments will be deferred by at least one quarter in light of the uncertain economic environment.

As per sources, Wilson asked the employees to suspend discretionary spending and defer non-critical expenditures to cut down on costs. He also spoke out about external headwinds impacting the airline industry, including Air India.

"We need to focus on our costs in these tough times...There must be a laser-sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages," Wilson told employees. He asked them to suspend discretionary spending, renegotiate rates where feasible and defer non-

critical expenditures.

The town hall was also attended by Air India Chief Financial Officer Sanjay Sharma and Chief Human Resources Officer Ravindra Kumar GP.

Kumar said Air India will proceed with variable pay for the last financial year and continue with planned promotions while annual increments

will be deferred by at least one quarter in light of the uncertain economic environment. "We don't anticipate layoffs," he said. Air India employee count stands at about 24,000.

Sources said Wilson highlighted several global and regional challenges affecting the industry, including closure of Pakistan airspace since May last year, geopolitical tensions across West Asia, depreciation of rupee

and a steep rise in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices.

ATF prices had more than doubled to \$180-190/barrel since the war broke out in West Asia. The government in April limited the hike to ₹15 per litre for domestic operations.



We need to focus on our costs in these tough times...There must be a laser-sharp focus on eliminating wastage and leakages

Campbell Wilson



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

कठिन दौर में एयर इंडिया, खर्च घटाने पर जोर

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली: एयर इंडिया ने बढ़ते खर्च और वैश्विक अनिश्चितताओं के बीच कर्मचारियों से गैर-जरूरी खर्च रोकने और जरूरी न होने वाले प्रोजेक्ट टालने को कहा है। हालांकि, कंपनी ने साफ किया है कि फिलहाल कर्मचारियों की छंटनी

कर्मचारियों
से गैर-
जरूरी खर्च
रोकने की
अपील

की आशंका नहीं है। एयर इंडिया के CEO और MD कैप्टेन विल्सन, CFO संजय शर्मा और

CHRO रविंद्र कुमार ने शुक्रवार को बैठक में कर्मचारियों को कंपनी की मौजूदा वित्तीय स्थिति की जानकारी दी। कहा कि पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्ष, पाक के एयरस्पेस बंद रहने और एविएशन फ्यूल की कीमतों में भारी बहोतरी से एयरलाइन की लागत तेजी से बढ़ी है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

'एयर इंडिया हादसे में रिपोर्ट जल्द'

■ भाषा, गांधीनगर: केन्द्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री राममोहन नायडू ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि अहमदाबाद में हुए एयर इंडिया विमान हादसे

260 लोगों
की मौत हुई
थी पिछले
साल हुए
हादसे में

की जांच आखिरी
चरण में है और
एक महीने में
रिपोर्ट आने की
उम्मीद है। पिछले
साल हुए इस

विमान हादसे में 260 लोगों की मौत हो गई थी। नायडू ने मारे गए लोगों के परिवारों की शिकायतों को दूर करने का वादा किया।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TRIBUNE

DELHI

9 MAY 2026

Restore Shimla air connectivity, HC tells Civil Aviation Ministry

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SHIMLA, MAY 8

The High Court has expressed concern over the continued suspension of air connectivity to Shimla and directed the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation to file a comprehensive affidavit detailing a timeline for restoration of flights to the state capital under the Modified UDAN Scheme-2026.

Hearing the matter, a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Gurmee Singh Sandhawalia and Justice Bipin Chander Negi observed that the earlier UDAN Scheme had expired in October 2025 and no flights had operated on the Shimla sector since then.

The Bench noted that Shimla remains the only state capital not connected under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), while all other state capitals have already been covered.

During the hearing, Union Civil Aviation Secretary Samir Kumar Sinha appeared through video conferencing from New

■ Shimla remains the only state capital yet to be connected under the Regional Connectivity Scheme

■ The HC observes that all other state capitals have already been brought under the RCS network

■ Centre directed to explore the possibility of alternate airlines operating flights on the Shimla route

■ Union Govt asked to examine feasibility of Delhi-Shimla helicopter services in view of aircraft shortage

Delhi and informed the court that there was a shortage of smaller aircraft such as ATR-42, ATR-72 and Q400 planes. He, however, assured the Bench that the issue would be examined and stated that Alliance Air was likely to resume operations from May 21.

The court also took note of an affidavit filed by the state government stating that, under a memorandum of understanding, Alliance Air had earlier indicated that flights would resume in the first week of May once aircraft were ready for service.

In view of the developments, the Bench impleaded Alliance Air Aviation Limited

through its Managing Director as a respondent and directed the airline to file its response and remain present on the next date of hearing.

Expressing concern over the underutilisation of the Shimla airport despite expenditure of Rs 116.70 crore under the Regional Connectivity Scheme, the court remarked that the airport could not be allowed to become "a white elephant standing as a sore thumb lit up in the hills."

The matter has been listed for further hearing on May 14, with the Union Civil Aviation Secretary directed to again join the proceedings through video conferencing.