



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

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## **Fire at Mumbai airport terminal 1 delays flights**

**Mumbai** A fire broke out in terminal 1 of Mumbai airport on Thursday evening resulting in flight delays. A few aerobridges were temporarily closed as a matter of precaution. Passengers also complained of system failure and outage of internet. According to a source eleven flights were delayed. In a statement, the Mumbai International Airport Ltd said a minor fire was reported at Terminal 1 due to a short circuit at 6.10 pm. "The fire was immediately brought under control. Airport operations remain unaffected," MIAL said.

OUR BUREAU



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल-1 में लगी आग

**मुंबई:** मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (सीएसएमआईए) के टर्मिनल-1 में गुरुवार शाम को शॉर्ट सर्किट के कारण आग लग गई। इस आग में कोई हताहत नहीं हुआ है। सीएसएमआईए के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि हवाई अड्डे का कामकाज अप्रभावित रहा। आग पर रात 9.20 बजे तक काबू पा लिया गया। सूत्रों ने दावा किया कि एहतियात के तौर पर किसी भी तरह के नुकसान से बचने के लिए सिस्टम बंद कर दिए गए थे। सिस्टम को धीरे-धीरे बहाल करने में कुछ समय के लिए कामकाज प्रभावित हुआ। सीएसएमआईए के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि शाम 6.10 बजे शॉर्ट सर्किट के कारण आग लगी, जिसे आपातकालीन प्रतिक्रिया टीमों ने काबू में कर लिया। (प्रेट)



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## कोलकाता एयरपोर्ट को नुकसान पहुंचाने की 2022 में रची थी साजिश

प्रथम पृष्ठ से आगे

पुलिस का कहना है कि उसकी जांच में यह भी सामने आया है कि अमन का आपराधिक रिकार्ड रहा है। 2022 में उसने कोलकाता एयरपोर्ट को नुकसान पहुंचाने की साजिश रची थी। उस दौरान वह विदेशियों के संपर्क में था, लेकिन समय रहते कोलकाता पुलिस को इसकी जानकारी मिल गई और बक्सर से उसे गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया था। उस समय नाबालिग होने के कारण वह दंडात्मक कार्रवाई से बच गया था। पुलिस के अनुसार कोलकाता से लौटने के बाद भी उसकी गतिविधियों में कोई सुधार नहीं हुआ। वह लगातार इंटरनेट मीडिया माध्यमों पर सक्रिय रहा और अधिक पैसे कमाने के लालच में फिर से बड़ी साजिश रचने में जुट गया। अमन के पिता गणेश तिवारी पूजा-पाठ कर परिवार का भरण-पोषण करते हैं।

## Airport, defence mock drills for emergency preparedness

**FPJ News Service**  
NAVI MUMBAI

An emergency mock drill will be conducted at the Navi Mumbai International Airport premises today (Thursday) to assess and strengthen disaster response preparedness, with multiple agencies participating in a coordinated exercise. The drill will simulate scenarios such as an aircraft accident, fire, and medical emergencies to evaluate the efficiency and response time of emergency mechanisms.

A Table Top Exercise was conducted at the airport on Wednesday to enhance disaster response capabilities, organised by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the Maharashtra State Disaster Management Authority. During the session, various agencies including NMMC, CIDCO, Reliance Industries, and the National



Disaster Response Force (NDRF) showcased specialised equipment that can be deployed during disaster situations.

The full-scale mock drill will be showcased on Thursday, where different emergency scenarios will be recreated to test real-time response and inter-agency coordination.

Meanwhile, a large-scale civil defence mock drill will also be conducted in Navi Mumbai today as part of a national initiative to

strengthen emergency preparedness and inter-agency coordination.

Organised by the Civil Defence wing under the Maharashtra Home Department, the exercise will be held at Late Ganpatsheth Fakirji Naik Ground in Bonkode village, Sector 11, Koparkhairane, between 2pm and 5pm, with support from the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation.

Around 300 personnel and volunteers will take part in the exercise.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

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## मुंबई हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल एक पर आग लगी

मुंबई। मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल-1 पर गुरुवार शाम आग लगने से यात्रियों में अफरा-तफरी मच गई, लेकिन किसी के घायल होने की सूचना नहीं है। सूत्रों का दावा है कि आग टर्मिनल के एक एयरोब्रिज पर लगी थी और एहतियात के तौर पर कुछ देर के लिए सिस्टम बंद कर दिए गए थे। इसके चलते कुछ समय के लिए कामकाज प्रभावित रहा। एक नागरिक अधिकारी ने बताया कि आग बुझाने का काम लगभग तीन घंटे तक चला।

ONCE NOIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS OPERATIONAL, DELHI WILL JOIN MUMBAI AS A CITY WITH 2 LARGE AIRPORTS

## YEIDA starts allotting land to electronics firms near Jewar airport

Devansh Mittal  
New Delhi, April 9

THE YAMUNA Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has started allotting plots of land near the Noida International Airport to electronics manufacturing companies, as part of a broader push to develop an electronics manufacturing cluster (EMC) in the region, YEIDA officials said.

According to official documents accessed by *The Indian Express*, plots have been allotted to firms like Havells India, Ascent K Circuit, and Polynomous Industries in Sector 10 of the YEIDA region. The units to be built on the plots are expected to manufacture products ranging from consumer electronics, printed circuit boards to advanced polymer materials.

YEIDA has also issued Letters of Intent (LOI) of Allotment to companies, including Aurionpro Toshi Automatic Systems, Aditech Semiconductors, Shailsuta Projects, and Dixon Technologies (India), officials said.

Havells has been allotted around 50 acres of land for a unit to manufacture consumer goods like fans, air-conditioners, lighting equipment, and cables, officials said, adding that it is expected to invest around Rs 800 crore on the unit.

Officials said Ascent K Circuit has received 16 acres of land for a unit to manufacture printed circuit board (PCB), including high-density interconnect (HDI), flex, and multilayer boards. It will invest over Rs 3,000 crore on the unit, work on which is expected to start this month, officials added. They said Polynomous Industries has been allotted 2.5 acres for an advanced polymer material manufacturing unit.

Shailendra Kumar Bhatia, Additional CEO, YEIDA, and nodal officer of the Noida International Airport, said the area has already attracted investment commitments worth nearly Rs 30,000 crore across



Inside the airport. ABHINAV SAHA

sectors, including semiconductors, medical devices, and film production.

"Improved connectivity is also expected to support industrial growth. The region is linked to the Yamuna Expressway and will connect to the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, Eastern Peripheral Expressway, and the proposed RRTS corridors," Bhatia said.

In February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the groundbreaking ceremony of HCL-Foxconn's semiconductor unit built in the YEIDA region. The Union government had in 2025 approved a Rs 417-crore EMC 2.0 project in Gautam Buddha Nagar, to be developed by the YEIDA on 200 acres. The government, in a statement, had said that the cluster is expected to attract investments of around Rs 2,500 crore and generate employment for about 15,000 people.

The Centre notified the Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) scheme in April 2020. The scheme aims at providing financial assistance for setting up of such clusters with common facilities like industrial plots and plug-and-play factory sheds — to attract investment, strengthen supply chains, and generate employment in the electronics sector.

Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had said that the project is aligned with the Centre's focus on boosting domestic manufacturing and job creation. "The project will lead to the creation of world-class infrastructure and generate 15,000 jobs," he had added.

## Gleaming interiors, building with green features: Showcase Noida airport prepares to welcome flights

Drishti Jain  
Greater Noida, April 9

TWELVE DAYS after Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally inaugurated the Noida International Airport (NIA), the sounds of machinery on stone fill the air as workers race to make the project ready for its users over the next few months.

The inside of the terminal building looks set to accept passengers already, its shiny, scrubbed floor made of locally sourced red granite gleaming.

"The building of the airport is 80% completed. Only a few things such as electrical fittings, CCTV security cameras, and a fully functional gas supply remain to be completed. They will be done very soon," a supervisor at the site said during a media visit on Thursday afternoon.

The airport, which is spread over 1,334 hectares of land, will be developed in four phases, and is projected to have a passenger carrying capacity of 12 million per annum at the end of Phase 1. A 3,900-metre runway at the airport is ready for flights, officials said.

"We are waiting for the completion of the Airport Security Program (ASP), and once this is done, we'll be able to operate, starting with domestic flights within 45 days," an official of the Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL) said.

"IndiGo, Air India Express, and Akasa have shown interest in operating from the airport, and once the ASP is completed, the DGCA (civil aviation regulator Director General of Civil Aviation) will decide the slots. International and cargo flights are expected to start by the end of the year," the official added.

Located in Jewar in Greater Noida, about 40 km from Pari Chowk, the airport is expected to serve a large slice of the population of Delhi and NCR, as well as parts of Western Uttar Pradesh. Once the airport is operational, the Capital will join Mumbai as a city with two large airports.

The airport building is intended to showcase the attributes and traditions of Uttar Pradesh, its holy cities and rivers. The ultramodern airport will have every feature, amenity, and technology to ensure passenger comfort and con-



While the building of the airport is 80% completed, a few things such as electrical fittings, CCTV cameras, and a fully functional gas supply system remain to be installed. ABHINAV SAHA

venience, officials said.

"Passengers can use the Digiyatra app in their phones to go seamlessly from the entrance gate of the terminal building right up to the boarding gate," an official said.

Terminal 1 of the airport sprawls over 1,37,985 sq m, and will have 48 check-in counters



and 20 baggage drop-off stations. Nine security lanes will ensure faster security checks, officials said. Ten domestic gates will have aerobridges to begin with, they said.

The airport design incorporates environmental consciousness, with enough natural light and bamboo seating in the

waiting hall. There will be charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs), and an all-electric fleet of vehicles on the airside, officials said.

There are plans for an RRTS at the airport, but the project will initially take off with conventional transportation with taxis and buses.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

9 APRIL 2026

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## Indigo aircraft grounded after vehicle hit at city airport

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**KOLKATA:** An unattended third-party vehicle on Tuesday rolled into a parked IndiGo aircraft at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, prompting the airline to pull the plane out of service for checks.

IndiGo said the vehicle, stationed on the apron, moved on its own and made contact with the aircraft. The matter has been reported to the concerned airport authorities, and standard protocols have been initiated.

The aircraft was scheduled to operate flight 6E 6663 to Guwahati but has since been grounded for a comprehensive inspection and necessary maintenance. The airline maintained that the aircraft will return to service only after it is fully cleared. An alternate aircraft was deployed to operate the Guwahati flight, allowing operations to continue with minimal disruption.

No injuries were reported. The incident has once again spotlighted safety practices on the airside, particularly the handling and securing of ground vehicles operating near parked aircraft at busy airports.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

9 APRIL 2026

## Govt cuts airport fees by 25% to ease cost pressure

**NARESH BISWANI**

**NEW DELHI:** A sudden shift in aviation fees emerges amid growing pressure from higher fuel prices linked to unrest in West Asia. To ease financial strain on carriers, authorities have adjusted ground service tariffs for local flight operators, the officials informed on Wednesday.

A quarter drop in landing and storage expenses will apply across Indian airports beginning immediately. This temporary change lasts exactly ninety days without possibility of extension. Decisions followed internal reviews assessing economic stress within the airline sector. Charges normally contribute significantly to airport revenue streams. The adjustment reflects sensitivity to operational cost spikes beyond carrier control.

Movement comes directly from the national civil aviation office. Financial relief targets only services operating inside national borders. Effects may influence scheduling and pricing

### INSIGHT

- » Financial relief targets only services operating inside national borders
- » The step aligns with wider efforts to assist air travel amid growing difficulties tied to soaring worldwide aviation turbine fuel rates

ing decisions by airlines during the coming weeks.

This step aligns with wider efforts to assist air travel amid growing difficulties tied to soaring worldwide aviation turbine fuel rates. Though global fuel expenses climbed rapidly, authorities previously limited how much of those rising ATF costs could be transferred to local airlines – setting a 25 per cent ceiling – to ease financial pressure on carriers while avoiding heavier impacts on travellers. Despite worldwide challenges, attention stays fixed on keeping air travel costs

steady, stated Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu. With recent cuts to airport fees, stress on carriers should ease – thus limiting steep ticket price increases, he observed.

Without delay, a reduction of 25 per cent in landing and parking fees now applies at key airports regulated by the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India. This move follows guidance from the ministry, taking force right away. For domestic air services, these revised rates remain valid across a three-month period. Revenue losses tied to the adjustment shall be addressed later, through recalibration in upcoming pricing reviews. While operations continue, financial balance will factor in such changes when tariffs are reassessed.

Besides, directives have reached the Airports Authority of India to apply comparable cuts at smaller airfields nationwide. With such alignment in policy, carriers serving urban hubs along with local routes may experience notable financial easing.

# Cut airport fees for domestic flights by 25% for 3 mths: Govt

## Bid To Ensure Air Fares Don't Defy Gravity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** In a bid to provide reprieve to airlines affected by the US-Iran war, the aviation ministry has directed all 34 major airports to reduce landing and parking charges for domestic flights by 25% for three months.

Accordingly, Airports Economic Regulatory Authority on Tuesday issued an order directing the operators of airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and others to do so with immediate effect.

With assembly elections in crucial states like Kerala and West Bengal on the horizon, the aviation ministry is making all possible attempts to ensure that domestic airfare hikes don't defy gravity. The hike in domestic ATF was capped at 25% this month. The ministry made a rare intervention in airport tariffs, given that a majority of them are run on a PPP model.

The order reads: "Landing and parking charges (part of aeronautical tariff) at all major airports shall be reduced by 25% from the prevailing tariff. This reduction comes into immediate effect and will



Under-recovery will be trued up during tariff determination of the next control period, Airports Economic Regulatory Authority said

be applicable on all domestic flights for a period of three months. The decision shall be reviewed prior to completion of the three-month period. Any under-recovery from aggregate revenue requirement will be trued up during the tariff determination of the next control period."

This month, oil marketing PSUs hiked aviation turbine fuel base price for domestic and international flights by 25% and over 100%, respectively. The Air India group and IndiGo have hiked their fuel surcharge. Coupled with airspace restrictions to the West that force airlines to take much longer routes to Europe and America, apart from far fewer flights on lucrative Gulf routes and a weak rupee, airlines have been badly hit.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## 26 Kenyan women held with 29kg gold at Mumbai airport

**Ahmed.Ali@timesofindia.com**

**Mumbai:** The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has arrested 26 Kenyan nationals — mostly elderly women — for allegedly smuggling 29.4kg of gold worth Rs37.7 crore from Nairobi, marking one of the lar-

gest seizures in recent times.

Acting on specific intelligence and digital profiling, DRI officials waited for the group on Wednesday at Terminal 2. Given heavy passenger traffic, officers chose to monitor the suspects near the arrival area of flight KQ 202 and planned to intercept them after they crossed the green channel. Around 11am, the passengers approached the green channel but

noticing officials, gathered near baggage belts. Upon questioning, 25 passengers identified themselves, while the 26th was detained by immigration authorities for attempting to use a fake passport.

All 25 denied carrying contraband. However, a search of two passengers led to the recovery of gold bars concealed in their shoes, prompting a broader search.



**VISAKHA DAIRY**  
**VISAKHAPATNAM**

Sealed Quotations are invited for

## Row over stray dogs at IGIA; DIAL says norms followed

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI APRIL 9

Netizens have taken to social media over missing stray dogs, namely 'Brownie' and 'Kad-du', at India's busiest Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), alleging they are being forcibly removed.

However, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), which manages the airport, has refuted the claims, stating the dogs are being regularly cared for and fed by its team, strictly following veterinary-prescribed guidelines to ensure their health and balanced behaviour.

The controversy erupted after animal rights activists alleged several sterilised and vaccinated dogs living around the airport were forcibly removed. The claims gained traction after videos surfaced online purportedly showing distressed dogs being transported, with some appearing disoriented, fuelling allegations of mistreatment.

One such visual showed a dog with its paws tied while a staff member appeared to pin its neck with a stick during removal from the airport premises. The incident triggered



A dog rests at Indira Gandhi International Airport.

outrage online, with many users accusing airport staff of inhumane treatment.

However, according to airport sources, one of the dogs had bitten two flyers earlier this week, prompting action. Officials said that 31 dog bite cases have been reported across all three terminals of IGIA since January 1, raising concerns over passenger safety.

In response, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) issued a statement defending its handling of community dogs at the airport.

"Several community dogs live across the three terminals and are being regularly cared for and fed by our team, strictly following veterinary-prescribed guidelines to ensure

their health and balanced behaviour," the statement said.

DIAL clarified that the brown dog seen in the video had shown signs of aggression after biting two individuals. "The dog has been carefully handled, calmed, and gently returned to its familiar area. Our approach remains rooted in care, safety and responsible management," it added.

The airport operator also urged flyers and visitors not to feed or engage with stray dogs in public areas, warning that such actions may unintentionally provoke them.

Highlighting the rising number of bite cases, DIAL said ensuring safety for both people and animals required collective responsibility.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

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## UK court orders SpiceJet to pay \$8 m to engine lessor



**New Delhi:** A UK court has ordered India's SpiceJet to pay about \$8 million to an aircraft engine lessor over unpaid rent and maintenance charges for three engines, in the latest setback for the cash-strapped airline. London's Commercial Court granted summary judgment on Wednesday in favour of Sunbird France 02 SAS over the unpaid rent and maintenance accruals, finding that SpiceJet had no viable defence. [wires](#)



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## अब अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के लिए भी डिजी यात्रा

भास्कर न्यूज़ | बेंगलुरु

अब अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के लिए भी डिजी यात्रा के इस्तेमाल की तैयारी है। कर्नाटक के बेंगलुरु में केम्पेगौड़ा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर



बेंगलुरु-दोहा रूट पर इसका सफल ट्रायल किया गया है। डिजी यात्रा में यात्रियों

को फेशियल रिकग्निशन के जरिये अंदर जाने की अनुमति दी जाती है। इससे एयरपोर्ट के एंटी, सिक्वोरिटी और बोर्डिंग जैसे सभी चरण बिना फिजिकल डॉक्यूमेंट के पूरे किए जा सकते हैं।

यह भारत में अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रा के लिए इस तरह का पहला ट्रायल माना जा रहा है। वर्तमान में देश के 38 एयरपोर्ट पर घरेलू उड़ान के लिए ये सुविधा उपलब्ध है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## संकट • बड़े में बचे खुद के 13 विमान; 14 वेट-लीज पर ऑपरेशन चल रहा स्पाइसजेट में 20% स्टाफ की छंटनी होगी, 3 महीने सैलरी लेट, टैक्स बकाया 100 करोड़ पार

◀ बिजनेस संवाददाता | नई दिल्ली

देश की प्राइवेट एयरलाइन स्पाइसजेट गंभीर संकट से गुजर रही है। परिचालन क्षमता घटने पर कंपनी ने 20% स्टाफ कम करने का फैसला किया है, जिसमें 500 से अधिक कर्मचारियों को बिना वेतन छुट्टी पर भेजा जा सकता है। एयरलाइन के पास 6,800 कर्मचारी हैं। अपने केवल 13 विमान बचे हैं, जिनमें 10 बोइंग और 3 Q400 शामिल हैं। इसके अलावा 14 विमान वेट-लीज (कू सहित) पर चल रहे हैं। सीनियर अफसरों को जनवरी से वेतन नहीं मिला है व अन्य कर्मचारियों की सैलरी 2-3 महीने देरी से मिल रही

**बदहाली:** 3.9% पर मार्केट शेयर... अकासा से पिछड़ी

घरेलू बाजार में स्पाइसजेट की हिस्सेदारी गिरकर महज 3.9% रह गई है। तुलनात्मक रूप से नई एयरलाइन अकासा की 37 विमानों और 5,000 कर्मचारियों के साथ हिस्सेदारी 4.9% है। पुराने कर्मचारी भी अपना फुल एंड फाइनल बकाया न मिलने पर नाराजगी जता रहे हैं।

है। कंपनी पर जीएसटी, टीडीएस और पीएफ का 100 करोड़ से अधिक बकाया है। टीडीएस अप्रैल 2025 से व जीएसटी 5 महीनों से जमा नहीं हुआ है।

**नया नियम:** पायलट सैलरी घटी, 21 दिन काम मिलेगा

पायलटों के लिए नया नियम आया है। उन्हें 21 दिन काम व 9 दिन छुट्टी लेनी होगी। इससे कैप्टन्स का 7.5 लाख रुपए मासिक वेतन घटकर 6 लाख रुपए हो जाएगा।

**सख्ती:** नोटिस पीरियड खत्म कर इंजीनियरों को हटाया

एयरलाइन ने इस्तीफा दे चुके दर्जनों इंजीनियरों का तीन महीने का नोटिस पीरियड खत्म कर दिया है। 31 मार्च के आदेश के बाद इन कर्मचारियों को तुरंत नौकरी छोड़ने को कहा गया है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

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## **UK Court Orders SpiceJet to Pay \$8 Million**

**New Delhi:** A UK court has ordered SpiceJet to pay about \$8 million to an aircraft engine lessor over unpaid rent and maintenance charges for three engines, in the latest setback for the carrier. London's Commercial Court granted summary judgment in favour of Sunbird France 02 SAS, citing unpaid dues and ruling that SpiceJet had no viable defence. The unpaid rent dates back to January 2022, with maintenance accruals from November 2020. The lessor issued default notices in July 2022 and repossessed the three engines between late 2022 and mid-2023. **Reuters**



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

10 APRIL 2026

## Ace Aviation buys last two Boeing 777s of Jet Airways for ₹568 crore

AKBAR MERCHANT  
Mumbai, April 9

**THE NOW-DEFUNCT** JET Airways has auctioned its last two Boeing 777-300ER aircraft for ₹568.18 crore, nearly 59% higher than the combined reserve price of ₹356.76 crore.

The e-auction, conducted under liquidator Satish Kumar Gupta, saw strong participation from Ace Aviation entities. Ace Aviation XIV acquired aircraft VT-JET for ₹309.25 crore, while Ace Aviation XV bought VT-JEU for ₹258.93 crore. The group had earlier acquired three similar Jet Airways aircraft.

The two wide-body aircraft were among the airline's most valuable remaining assets. The reserve prices were set at ₹171.80 crore and ₹184.95 crore, respectively, with final bids significantly exceeding these benchmarks. The outcome highlights continued demand for wide-body aircraft, either for operations or part-out, in the secondary market despite Jet's prolonged insolvency. Jet Airways officially suspended operations on April 17, 2019.

The airline entered liquidation following a Supreme Court order in November 2024. Jet Airways informed stock exchanges of the transaction on April 8.



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HINDUSTAN TIMES

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## हवा में एयर इंडिया के विमान का इंजन फेल, आपात लैंडिंग

मुंबई, एजेंसी। मुंबई से बेंगलुरु जा रहे एयर इंडिया के एक विमान को गुरुवार को उड़ान भरने के कुछ समय बाद ही तकनीकी खराबी के कारण इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग करनी पड़ी। हवा में विमान के इंजन में आई गड़बड़ी के बाद चालकों ने रेडियो पर आपातकालीन स्थिति का संकेत देने वाला पैन-पैन संदेश भेजा।

पैन-पैन विमानन संचार में उपयोग किया जाने वाला एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय आपातकालीन संदेश है, जो गंभीर स्थिति को दर्शाता है, लेकिन तत्काल जानलेवा नहीं है। घटना ए-320 नियोजित विमान (उड़ान संख्या एआई 2812) की है, जिसने रात लगभग 2:15 बजे उड़ान भरी थी। उड़ान भरते समय विमान से तेज आवाज सुनाई दी और चिंगारियां देखी गईं। इसके तुरंत बाद विमान का दूसरा इंजन ठप हो गया। विमान में कुल 47 यात्री सवार थे।

## DGCA orders 5G-safe upgrades for jets

**Jatin Grover & Abhishek Law**

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**NEW DELHI:** Ever found your mobile phone's signal to be patchy while waiting for a flight? That's because telecom operators can't provide stronger signals near airports, as these can interfere with a small cockpit tool—a radio altimeter.

The electronic gauge, which measures the altitude of an airborne plane, feeds data to multiple automated systems on board. A wrong reading can be a safety risk, especially during poor visibility. But the restrictions have sparked concerns as telecom operators expand 5G coverage and prepare for even stronger 6G networks.

Now, the civil aviation regulator has asked all airlines to modify the altimeters so that they are tolerant to 3300-3670 megahertz (MHz) C-band—a key range of spectrum to provide 5G services, according to the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) order dated 19 November 2025.



The US earlier addressed concerns by requiring upgrades to aircraft radio altimeters.

HT

Mint has reviewed a copy of the order.

The required modification or retrofitting must be completed by 31 December 2027, the order said.

India is not alone in facing this challenge. Countries such as the US and those in Europe have faced similar challenges, with regulators proposing deadlines extending to 2029–2032 for full fleet retrofits. But that has also

caused a spike in demand. According to estimates by the American regulator Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), upgrades will cost around \$4.5 billion for the US fleet alone.

To be sure, the US had earlier addressed 5G interference concerns by requiring upgrades to aircraft radio altimeters, setting a February 2024 deadline. It later said the entire airline fleet had completed these upgrades by

September 2023, mitigating immediate risks. However, the country now has plans to expand 5G into a higher spectrum band.

Since the 2022 rollout of 5G in India, telecom operators have had to limit signal strength near airports and follow strict exclusion zones to avoid interference with aircraft systems. According to the November order, the DGCA has also prohibited pilots from conducting automatic landings and from using enhanced flight vision systems for touchdown in aircraft with radio altimeters that are not tolerant of 5G airwaves.

"There are airplanes with an old generation of altimeters, which can cause interference with 5G currently and 6G in the upper C-band in future such as 4.4-4.8GHz," said Bharat Bhatia, president of ITU-APT Foundation of India, which works with industry and government on telecom policy. "The altimeter replacement is the only solution, which could take time owing to a similar demand from other developing countries."



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

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## AI Mumbai-B'luru flight scare as engine stalls

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**NEW DELHI:** An Air India flight from Mumbai to Bengaluru returned shortly after take-off on Thursday after one of its engines stalled, prompting the pilots to issue a "PAN PAN" emergency call, officials familiar with the matter said.

The incident involved flight AI 2812, an Airbus A320 Neo, which was originally scheduled to depart Mumbai at 2:05 am.

The aircraft took off around 2:30 am but returned to the airport within minutes, the officials said. Passengers reported hearing a loud sound and seeing



**Passengers reported hearing a loud sound and seeing sparks during take-off.**

AP/FILE

sparks during take-off. "There was a sound heard and sparks seen while take-off. The pilot

declared PAN PAN and returned to the airport within minutes," said an official, requesting anonymity.

"It was later found that engine 2 had stalled," the official added.

An Air India spokesperson, however, termed it a precautionary return.

"Flight AI 2812 from Mumbai to Bengaluru on April 9 returned to Mumbai shortly after take-off as a precaution due to a suspected technical issue, in accordance with standard operating procedures. The aircraft landed safely and is undergoing detailed technical inspections," the spokesperson said.

An airport official said a local

standby was declared before the aircraft landed safely. The airline said passengers were provided assistance and an alternative aircraft was arranged.

"We regret the inconvenience caused to our passengers. Our Mumbai airport teams provided immediate assistance, and an alternate aircraft was arranged to operate the flight. The safety and wellbeing of our passengers and crew remain our top priority," the spokesperson added.

Officials said the aircraft, carrying 47 passengers, was grounded following the incident. "An alternate aircraft was arranged that departed around 4.45 am," an official said.



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## UK court backs lessor in SpiceJet dues case

[feedback@vwmint.com](mailto:feedback@vwmint.com)

**A** UK court has ordered India's SpiceJet to pay about \$8 million to an aircraft engine lessor over unpaid rent and maintenance charges for three engines, in the latest setback for the cash-strapped airline. London's Commercial Court granted summary judgment on Wednesday in favour of Sunbird France 02 SAS over the unpaid rent and maintenance accruals, finding that SpiceJet had no viable defence.

The ruling comes as SpiceJet is under financial strain following the Boeing 737 MAX grounding and pandemic, and losing market share to rivals such as Akasa Air. The unpaid rent dates from January 2022, while maintenance accruals date back to November 2020. The lessor issued default notice in July 2022 and repossessed all three engines during late 2022-mid-2023.

The airline did not respond to an email seeking comment.

SpiceJet initially hired British solicitors but never filed a defence or response to Sunbird's application, judgment showed. Its auditors warned of uncertainty over its ability to continue as a going concern, citing mounting losses and a gap between liabilities and assets, show its latest results.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TRIBUNE

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## IndiGo, Bengaluru airport test contactless international travel

**SHEKHAR SINGH**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, APRIL 9**

Biometric travel, contactless airport, Digi Yatra and international air travel are fast becoming the next big shift in India's aviation sector, with Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) and IndiGo completing a major global-standard trial at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru.

The pilot project, conducted with Digi Yatra Foundation and International Air Transport Association (IATA), tested a seamless international passenger journey powered entirely

by biometric authentication, eliminating the need for repeated document checks.

The initiative is a part of IATA's global push to develop "One ID" based contactless travel, placing India among key aviation markets shaping the future of digital air travel.

Earlier this year, IndiGo and Digi Yatra have already rolled out a biometric-based Self-Sovereign Identity system for domestic passengers. The latest trials at Bengaluru extend this model to international travel, allowing passengers to move from ticket booking to boarding using a

single digital identity.

Industry experts said that this could significantly cut airport queues, reduce processing time and improve passenger experience. Bangalore International Airport Limited said the Bengaluru airport was currently the only Indian airport participating in this process.

"The project demonstrates a privacy-first system where passengers can verify identity across airport touchpoints using facial recognition, without repeatedly sharing documents," said Digi Yatra Foundation CEO Suresh Khadakhbavi.