



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

Digi Yatra to roll out at 15 more airports this financial year

AVIK DAS
Bengaluru, 9 June

Digi Yatra, an initiative coordinated by the civil aviation ministry to ensure seamless travel for passengers from the airport gates to boarding a flight, will be available in 15 more airports this financial year (FY26). Siddharth Verma, head of IT operations of Digi Yatra Foundation, said.

"All the metros are done, and all the big airports are done. So now we are left with the smaller airports where the ministry evaluates if there is a need at all or not. Because at times you don't need such solutions if the volume is very less, or there is just one gate," he told *Business Standard*.

Five of those new airports include Mangalore, Trivandrum, Srinagar, Chandigarh, and Nagpur. The rest are managed by the Airport Authority of India (AAI), whose infrastructure is ready, but the technology integration is still in process.

Digi Yatra's technology, since being launched in 2022, has revolutionised travel across Indian airports through a successful implementation of self-sovereign identity or decentralised ID that allows users to control their online information. The authentication is done through two documents, the Aadhaar and the boarding pass.

To date, the app has been downloaded 14 million times and facilitated more than 56 million journeys across airports in India.

The Digi Yatra app is linked with the

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) ecosystem. So when a passenger downloads the app, fills in the required details – including the Aadhaar number – and gets an OTP on the phone to authenticate, UIDAI sends the Aadhaar details on the phone.

"Then your proof of presence is established by taking your selfie and matching the selfie with the image that is there in the Aadhaar. These two things have to match with each other.

What we do is we create something called a verified credential, which is like a digital photocopy with a digital stamp on it, which is called proof value. And this proof value, along with the ID document, is sent to the user's phone, which gets stored in the Digi Yatra wallet till you delete it yourself."

Even for Aadhaar, Digi Yatra follows what Sharma terms as data minimisation. Only a passenger's name, gender, date of birth, and masked Aadhaar number are taken. The second step of the journey involves uploading the boarding pass, where the technology pulls the data from the QR code, which includes date of travel, name, seat number, PNR, origin, and destination.

"When you link your boarding pass, we match the name that you had linked earlier from your Aadhaar and the name on the boarding pass. If these two things match, along with the real-time facial image clicked at the airport, the gate opens. All this is happening automatically. There is no human intervention," explains Sharma.

**FIVE OF THOSE
NEW AIRPORTS
INCLUDE
MANGALORE,
TRIVANDRUM,
SRINAGAR,
CHANDIGARH,
AND NAGPUR**



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10 JUNE 2025

HC allows AAI to float tender to replace Çelebi

Bidding outcome to depend on pending litigation

AASHISH ARYAN
New Delhi, 9 June

The Madras High Court (HC) on Monday allowed the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to proceed with a public tender seeking a replacement for Turkish ground and cargo handling firm Çelebi's Indian subsidiary, whose security clearance was cancelled by the central government last month.

During the hearing, AAI informed the Madras HC that though it will have to float a tender to hire a new ground handling and cargo, the tender will mention that the outcome of the bidding will be subject to the litigation initiated by Çelebi Airport Services India at Madras and Delhi high courts.

The AAI also gave an undertaking that the equipment left behind by Çelebi will not be used by other ground operators. The Chennai airport needs at least three ground handling and cargo management



AAI also gave an undertaking that equipment left behind by Çelebi would not be used by other ground operators

firms, the AAI said.

In May, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) revoked the security clearance of Istanbul-headquartered ground handling firm Çelebi Airport Services India, citing concerns over national security. Çelebi, which employed over 10,000 people in India, used to provide ground services at nine major airports across the country.

Çelebi's employees have since been absorbed into the operations of other ground and cargo handling companies operating at these airports. In a statement, Çelebi had "unequivocally" refuted the "misleading and factually incorrect allegations" concerning its ownership and operations in India.

With inputs from Deepak Patel



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HC allows AAI to float tender to replace Celebi



THE MADRAS HIGH Court has reportedly allowed the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to proceed with a public tender seeking a replacement for Turkish ground and cargo handling firm Celebi's Indian arm.



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THE TIMES OF INDIA

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HC allows Celebi to enter Chennai airport for inventory

Chennai: Madras HC allowed Turkish-based Celebi Ground Services to enter Chennai airport premises for compiling an inventory of its equipment after prior approval from the airport authorities, reports **Sureshkumar K.**

Justice Abdul Quddhose issued the interim order on Monday on a petition filed by Celebi Ground Services Chennai Private Limited, challenging the cancellation of the concession agreement by Airport Authority of India following the cancellation of its security clearance by Bureau of Civil Aviation Security on May 26.

Senior advocate P S Raman, representing the company, told the court the firm had invested vast amounts of money in its equipment and software.

जिन्होंने एयरपोर्ट के लिए जमीन दी, उनके सपनों को मिलेगी उड़ान प्रभावित परिवारों के लिए पोर्टल शुरू, युवाओं को मिलेगा औद्योगिक इकाइयों में रोजगार, फॉर्म भरने के लिए लगेगा कैंप

माई सिटी रिपोर्ट

ग्रेटर नोएडा। नोएडा एयरपोर्ट परियोजना के लिए जमीन देने वाले परिवारों के भविष्य को संवारने के लिए रोजगार पोर्टल शुरू कर दिया गया है। जेवर विधायक धीरेंद्र सिंह, यमुना प्राधिकरण के सीईओ डॉ. अरुणवीर सिंह और जिलाधिकारी मनीष कुमार वर्मा ने संयुक्त रूप से सोमवार को इसको शुरुआत की।

इस पोर्टल के माध्यम से योग्यता के आधार पर स्थानीय और अन्य औद्योगिक इकाइयों में रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराए जाएंगे। युवाओं के ऑनलाइन आवेदन कराने के लिए कैंप लगाए जाएंगे। विधायक ने कहा कि यह केवल जमीन देने की भरपूर



नोएडा एयरपोर्ट

प्रक्रिया पारदर्शी, डाटाबेस तैयार

सीईओ ने कहा कि पोर्टल पारदर्शिता और दक्षता के आधार पर युवाओं को रोजगार से जोड़ने का माध्यम बनेगा। डीएम ने बताया कि प्रशासन के पास प्रभावित परिवारों के बच्चों का विस्तृत डाटाबेस पहले से तैयार है और जल्द ही सभी को पोर्टल से जोड़ा जाएगा।

नहीं, उस भरोसे की वापसी है जो किसानों ने सरकार पर जतया था। हमने वादा किया था कि बच्चों का भविष्य सुरक्षित किया जाएगा।

खास बातें

- प्रथम चरण में भूमि देने वाले किसानों के बच्चों को प्राथमिकता
- योग्यता के अनुसार स्थानीय रोजगार के मिलेगे अवसर
- कैंप लगाकर फॉर्म भरवाए जाएंगे
- सरकारी तंत्र, प्राधिकरण और प्रशासन तीनों मिलकर कर रहे प्रयास

रोजगार पोर्टल उमी दिशा में ठोस कदम है। इस अवसर पर नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट के अधिकारी भी उपस्थित रहे।

अक्षय ऊर्जा से जगमगाएगा नोएडा एयरपोर्ट

यमुना सिटी। नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के संचालन में बिजली की आपूर्ति नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा (रिन्यूबल एनर्जी) से भी की जाएगी। इसमें सौर ऊर्जा और पवन ऊर्जा से कुल 24 मेगावाट बिजली प्रतिदिन दी जाएगी। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट ने यूपी पावर कॉरपोरेशन से 93.5 मेगावाट और 19.5 मेगावाट विद्युत आपूर्ति के लिए समझौते किए थे। इसके अलावा टाटा पावर ट्रेडिंग कंपनी लिमिटेड (टीपीटीसीएल) से अक्षय ऊर्जा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए समझौता किया था। इसमें पवन ऊर्जा से करीब 10.8 मेगावाट और सौर ऊर्जा से करीब

13 मेगावाट ऊर्जा उपलब्ध होगी। टाटा पावर पवन ऊर्जा दूसरे स्थानों से उत्पादन कर हवाई अड्डे को आपूर्ति करेगी। कंपनी सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र हवाई अड्डा परिसर में स्थापित कर रही है। एयरपोर्ट संचालन से पहले सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र शुरू करने की तैयारी है। सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र का संचालन और रखरखाव टीपीआरएल हवाई अड्डे की 13 मेगावाट ऑनसाइट सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र का विकास, संचालन और रखरखाव भी करेगा। पवन और सौर ऊर्जा से हवाई अड्डे की स्थायी बिजली आवश्यकताओं की आपूर्ति होगी। व्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

एयरपोर्ट से प्रभावित किसानों के युवाओं को मिलेगा रोजगार, पोर्टल का शुभारंभ



- जेवर विधायक धीरेन्द्र सिंह, यमुना प्राधिकरण के सीईओ और जिलाधिकारी जनपद गौतमबुद्धनगर ने संयुक्त रूप से किया रोजगार पोर्टल का शुभारंभ
- कल से ही जेवर स्थित आरएंडआर कॉलोनी और नगर पंचायत रबूपुरा में ऑनलाइन फॉर्म भरे जाने हेतु लगाए जाएंगे कैप

ग्रेटर नोएडा, 9 जून (देशबन्धु)। नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट की आधारशिला पर टिके विकास की धुरी अब उन किसानों के परिवारों के जीवन यापन को उन्नत बनाने की ओर अग्रसर है, जिन्होंने नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट को बनाए जाने हेतु अपनी जमीनों की सहमतियां दी थी। इसी क्रम में सोमवार को किसानों से किए गए वायदे को पूरा किए जाने की दिशा में जेवर विधायक धीरेन्द्र सिंह, यमुना एक्सप्रेस वे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी अरुण वीर सिंह और जिलाधिकारी मनीष कुमार वर्मा ने संयुक्त रूप से प्रथम चरण में जमीन देने वाले किसानों के बच्चों को रोजगार उपलब्ध कराए

जाने हेतु एक रोजगार पोर्टल का शुभारंभ किया। इस रोजगार पोर्टल का शुभारंभ नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट साइट पर किया गया। कैपों के माध्यम से प्रभावित किसानों के बच्चों के ऑनलाइन फार्म भरवाए जाएंगे।

यह रोजगार पोर्टल उन परिवारों के बच्चों को ध्यान में रखकर तैयार किया गया है, जिन्होंने जेवर में बन रहे नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट के लिए प्रथम चरण में अपनी जमीनें की सहमति दी थी। इस रोजगार पोर्टल के माध्यम से युवाओं को योग्यता के आधार पर स्थानीय व अन्य औद्योगिक इकाइयों में रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराए

जाएंगे। साथ ही बच्चों का कौशल विकास भी कराया जाएगा।

यमुना एक्सप्रेस वे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी अरुण वीर सिंह ने कहा कि रोजगार पोर्टल पारदर्शिता और दक्षता के साथ प्रभावित युवाओं को नौकरी से जोड़ने में अहम भूमिका निभाएगा। जिलाधिकारी मनीष वर्मा ने कहा कि प्रशासन के पास प्रभावित कुटुंब के बच्चों का डाटाबेस तैयार है। शीघ्र सभी प्रभावित किसानों को बच्चों को इस रोजगार पोर्टल का लाभ मिलेगा। इस रोजगार पोर्टल के शुभारंभ के मौके पर नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट के अधिकारी भी उपस्थित रहे।



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DESHBANDHU

DELHI

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जेवर एयरपोर्ट के लिए बन रहे इमरजेंसी रोड का डीएम ने किया निरीक्षण

ग्रेटर नोएडा, 9 जून (देशबन्धु)। जिलाधिकारी मनीष कुमार वर्मा ने जेवर पहुंच कर एयरपोर्ट हेतु नेशनल हाईवे अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया द्वारा तैयार की जा रही 8 किलोमीटर लंबी 30 मी0 चौड़ी इमरजेंसी रोड के निर्माण कार्य का निरीक्षण किया। उप



जिलाधिकारी जेवर अभय कुमार सिंह द्वारा एयरपोर्ट हेतु तैयार की जा रही इमरजेंसी रोड के कार्य कि

वर्तमान तक की प्रगति से जिलाधिकारी को अवगत कराया गया। जिलाधिकारी ने एयरपोर्ट हेतु इमरजेंसी रोड निर्माण के लिए किए जा रहे कार्यों का बहुत ही गहनता के साथ निरीक्षण करते हुए कार्यों की समीक्षा की और संबंधित अधिकारियों को आवश्यक दिशा निर्देश प्रदान करते हुए कहा कि जेवर एयरपोर्ट भारत एवं उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार का ड्रीम प्रोजेक्ट है, इसलिए इसके किसी भी कार्यों में शिथिलता न बरती जाए। साथ ही जिलाधिकारी ने अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिए कि इमरजेंसी रोड के निर्माण कार्य में और अधिक तेजी लाई जाए, ताकि कार्य को ससमय में पूर्ण किया जा सके। जिलाधिकारी के निरीक्षण के दौरान उप जिलाधिकारी जेवर अभय कुमार सिंह, नेशनल हाईवे अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया के अधिकारी व अन्य संबंधित अधिकारी गण उपस्थित रहे।

Airport baggage issues delay exit of flyers

Ruchir Kumar

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PATNA: Baggage-related issues are delaying passengers from exiting the arrival hall of the new integrated terminal building at the Jayprakash Narayan International (JPNI) airport here that became operational on June 3, said officials, who dismissed them as “teething problems”.

Passengers have alleged that they have had to wait for up to 40 minutes, especially during busy hours, when a bunch of flights land. Such a scenario happens at least three times a day between 10.20am and 11.20am; 1.10pm and 2.20pm and 9pm and 10pm, when five flights are scheduled to arrive within a time slot of one hour at the Patna airport, which presently caters to 48 inbound flights in a day.

Passengers also alleged last-minute change of conveyor belt, adding to their confusion in collecting one’s registered baggage.

“Things are a little mismanaged, as we were informed that we will get the luggage on belt number 3, but found my baggage on belt number 2,” said Aman Kamalia, who reached Patna at 10.50pm by an IndiGo (6E 6120) flight from Bengaluru on June 6.

Kumud Kumar Jha, who arrived by an IndiGo flight (6E 6451) from Bengaluru said he had to wait for his baggage for around 45 minutes after the arrival of his flight at 7.25pm on Saturday.

“It took around 30 minutes for me to get my registered bag, but the wheelchair of my daughter, which, too, I had booked through baggage, was delayed, and I had to wait for around 45 minutes for it before a woman executive of the IndiGo made several calls and helped me get it,” said Jha, who superannuated from the LIC.

“The system of arrival of registered baggage on the carousel has changed after the introduction of the in-line baggage system (ILBS) in the new terminal building, which is taking some time,” said an official.

“Earlier, a tractor trolley would get registered baggage offloaded from an aircraft and directly place them on the conveyor belt, which would not take more than 10 minutes after the arrival of an aircraft. Now, once the baggage is offloaded from an aircraft, the tractor trolley takes them to the basement of the terminal building, where there is a baggage make-up area (BMA) and a baggage break-up area (BBA). The baggage is sorted and sent up through a conveyor belt before getting on the carousel for passengers to collect. This takes some time, maybe 10-15 minutes,” the officer explained.

The officer further said that the airlines have to allot conveyor belts that is done through a computerised system for which airlines have been provided unique login ID and password.

“In case of a wrong input, the baggage goes through a differ-

ent conveyor belt than the one announced inside an aircraft, leading to last-minute confusion among passengers at the arrival hall. Since the ILBS system is new, the airlines are facing teething problems but are gradually coping with it,” he added.

“There are four feeder conveyors in the new integrated terminal building. Given that we now have a bigger terminal, the feeder conveyor length is longer than the earlier one. The feeder length of conveyor belt 4 is the shortest while that of 3 is longer, but still it should not take more than 5 minutes,” said another official familiar with the matter.

As per a circular by the civil aviation ministry, the first arriving bag should reach within 10 minutes and the last bag within 30 minutes after arrival of an aircraft.

The delay in processing registered baggage, also leads to traffic snarlup at the exit of the arrival, where vehicles are stuck in a jam.

On Sunday, air conditioning issues were also reported near the departure VIP lounge, check-in area and post-security hold area.

JD(U) MLC Sanjay Singh, who flew to Jaipur on June 3, when the new terminal building became operational, and returned to Patna on June 6, said: “I got my bag in 10-15 minutes. However, issues related to baggage, etc. are at best teething problems, which I’m sure the officials will overcome soon.”



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

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Video shows man pinned to floor at US airport; Indian consulate intervenes

DIVYA A
NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

THE INDIAN Consulate in New York said they have gotten in touch with authorities in the United States after videos purportedly showing “an Indian student” being handcuffed and pinned to the floor at the Newark airport came to light on Sunday night.

Posted on X by an Indian-American entrepreneur, Kunal Jain, the videos and photographs showed an unidentified young individual handcuffed and crying at the airport. Jain, who tagged the Indian Embassy in Washington DC and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in his series of posts, said he was speaking in “Haryanvi language and accent” and was pleading that the authorities were bent upon declaring him mentally unfit. Taking cognisance of this, the Indian Consulate in New York said on Monday evening, “We have come across social media posts claiming that an Indian national is facing difficulties at Newark Liberty International Airport. We are in touch with local authorities in this regard.” The Consulate remains committed to the welfare

of Indian nationals, they said.

According to Jain, who said he witnessed the event firsthand, the young man appeared to be in distress and was crying as the Port Authority Police officers restrained him.

There is no confirmation if the said individual has left Newark or has arrived in India, as per those aware of the matter. Authorities are presently trying to ascertain the date and time of the video, and the identity of the said individual, they said.

Calling it a human tragedy, Jain wrote on X, “I witnessed a young Indian student being deported from Newark Airport last night — handcuffed, crying, treated like a criminal. As an NRI, I felt helpless and heartbroken.”

Photographs and video clips shared by Jain show the unidentified young man being restrained by officers from the Port Authority Police Department (PAPD), the agency responsible for law enforcement across major transport hubs in New York and New Jersey.

A call made by *The Indian Express* to Port Authority Police Department at Newark International Airport didn't elicit any details, except for the officer saying that “the PAPD doesn't get involved in deportations”.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW

9 JUNE 2025

Tunnel to ease Capital airport, Gurugram traffic

RAJESH KUMAR ■ New Delhi

In a move to ease traffic, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will build a tunnel worth Rs 3500 crore connecting Nelson Mandela Marg in Vasant Kunj to Shiv Murti interchange, Mahipalpur. The 4.9 km tunnel will be part of the National Highway 148AE and is intended to provide a direct, bypass route for traffic heading towards or from Gurugram and the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

Announcing this, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved six major infrastructure projects in Delhi.

One of the key projects is a 5-kilometre-long tunnel that will not only balance the traffic between South Delhi and NCR but will also help curb pollution and transform the overall look of the area. The tunnel, stretching from Shiv Murti-Mahipalpur (Dwarka Expressway) to Nelson Mandela Road (Vasant Kunj), will reduce congestion on multiple routes and create a signal-free corridor.

The NHAI will construct the tunnel, comprise two underground tubes - one each for up and down traffic. Each tube will have three lanes, making a total of six lanes available for smooth traffic movement. The tunnel will also be equipped with modern facilities such as electro-mechanical systems, ventilation, fire safety, CCTV surveillance, control rooms, emergency exits, and cross-passages.

The CM said that after a recent meeting with Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari, several projects worth ₹24,000 crore aimed at streamlining traffic and reducing pollution in Delhi and adjoining areas have been approved.

She further explained that the construction of this tunnel will significantly ease traffic congestion on Nelson

Mandela Road (Vasant Kunj), Mahipalpur, and Rangpuri. It will also reduce the traffic load on Dhaula Kuan, Rao Tula Ram Marg, and National Highway 48 (NH-48) in the Mahipalpur area. The tunnel will offer a direct, signal-free alternate route between South Delhi and Dwarka/Gurugram, which is expected to help eliminate traffic jams on NH-48, especially during peak hours.

The CM also noted that in the future, this tunnel will serve as a key connector between Central/East Delhi and multiple major expressways and highways including

The NHAI will construct the tunnel, comprise two underground tubes - one each for up and down traffic. Each tube will have three lanes, making a total of six lanes

the Delhi Expressway (NE-5), NH-44, NH-10, Delhi-Jaipur Highway (NH-48), and Delhi-Dehradun Expressway (NH-709B) via the Urban Extension Road (UER) and Dwarka Expressway. This will lead to smoother traffic across these routes and a significant reduction in pollution levels.

The CM informed that all technical and formal requirements for the project are in their final stages, and work is expected to commence early next year.

Calling this project, the "foundation for the Delhi of the future," CM Rekha Gupta said that the tunnel will give a new direction to Delhi's infrastructure and bring relief to millions of citizens. She further added, "We are committed to making Delhi congestion-free and clean. The construction of this tunnel will reduce the burden on roads, eliminate traffic signals, and save fuel."

Continued on >> P8

Tunnel to ease Capital airport, Gurugram...

Continued from >> P1 The project requires clearance under the Forest Conservation Act (FCA) as it affects 5.825 hectares of southern Ridge land and 1.68 hectares of deemed forest. The Ridge Management Board approved the project in November 2022, followed by the Central Empowered Committee in June 2023 and final approval from the Supreme Court in October 2023. The Union environment ministry will now decide on the FCA clearance for the project. Last year, Delhi Pollution

Control Committee (DPCC) has prepared a report based on the feedback it has received during two public hearings in Sept regarding the proposed construction of an underground road tunnel from Shiv Murti Interchange to Nelson Mandela Marg.

The report has been submitted to the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEF&CC), which will make the decision on granting environmental clearance to the project. DPCC, in its report, said that the participants at the

hearing were told by the project proponent that the environmental management plan will be implemented during construction. The project proponent in its written reply has stated that the tunnel will be constructed using a tunnel boring machine below the surface, and hence no damage is anticipated. "Proper monitoring and safety design checks shall be done to avoid any damage to existing structures," the project proponent has said, according to DPCC's report.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

9 JUNE 2025

Flight to A'bad aborts takeoff after engine failure

Saurabh.Sinha
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AV2500 engine of an IndiGo Airbus A320neo (VT-IAX) failed during take off roll at Kolkata on Sunday morning. Operating as 6E-245 to Ahmedabad, the pilots aborted take-off and safely brought the aircraft to a halt.

"The aircraft was involved in reject take-off due to engine number 1 shutting down during take-off roll. Inspection and rectification is in progress," said a senior official of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation



(DGCA), which is probing the engine failure.

Comments have been sought from IndiGo and are awaited.

The flight has a schedule time of 6am. After the incident, IndiGo organised for another aircraft (VT-IQO, an A320neo) which took off

The IndiGo pilots aborted the 6am take-off from Kolkata airport and safely brought the aircraft to a halt. IndiGo then organized another plane for the A'bad bound passengers at 8.35am

from Kolkata for Ahmedabad at 8.35am.

The aircraft VT-IAX is nearly 11 years old. Supply chain constraints seen since 2020 have made it difficult for airlines globally, including Air India group, Akasa and IndiGo, to get their ordered planes, engines, seats, com-

ponents and even spares.

So AI and IndiGo are now retaining their older planes, including the older-gen A320neo family of planes, for much longer now.

IndiGo, not so long back, used to send back planes after they completed about six years of service with it to lessors.

The idea was to have a fleet of young and fuel-efficient A320neo family of planes. But not so any longer as it has become difficult to get delivery of new planes as per schedule, making it imperative to hold on to older ones for longer than earlier.

European plane maker ATR bullish on India



NEW DELHI, June 8: Bullish on the business opportunities in India, European aircraft maker ATR is in discussions with scheduled and non-scheduled operators to explore the sale of its aircraft.

Considering the growth potential of the Indian market, a senior ATR official said it expects the country to have 300 more turboprops in the next 10 years.

A joint venture between Airbus and Leonardo, ATR manufactures turboprops with up to 78 seats as well as freighters.

Currently, there are 70 ATR aircraft in the country that are operated by IndiGo,

Alliance Air, and FLY91.

ATR is still “very bullish” on the Indian market and is in active discussions with some of the operators, the company’s MD Jean-Pierre Clercin said in the national capital.

Without divulging specific details, he said the company is in talks with scheduled and non-scheduled operators, including those already flying ATR aircraft.

India is one of the world’s fastest-growing civil aviation markets and the number of airports as well as regional air connectivity is on the rise.

Efforts are on to set up 50 more airports in the country in the next five years. At

present, there are more than 160 operational airports.

“We are keen on exploring further ties in India,” he said, adding that the company is also looking at partnerships with universities.

In India, Clercin said there is the potential to have 300 more turboprop aircraft in the next 10 years.

ATR has sold 1,800 aircraft to 200 operators spread across 100 countries.

For a domestic market like India that has many thin routes such as those that can be reached in an hour, he said that is where operators will need a cheaper product like ATR aircraft. – PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

DGCA reviews possibility of curtailing helicopter operations to Chardham Yatra

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

India's civil aviation regulator is "reviewing the necessity of curtailing helicopter operations" to Chardham Yatra in Uttarakhand due to recent safety concerns.

The possibility of curtailing operations arose after the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) conducted a safety review of chopper services.

In one incident, a helicopter crashed close to Gangotri, killing six people, while on May 12, a chopper blade struck a car at Badrinath Helipad.

Sources have alleged that operators overload their helicopters to maximise profits, despite strict safety norms by the DGCA.

In a statement on Monday, the DGCA said, "Recently, multiple occurrences involving helicopter operations during the Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand have underscored the necessity for further strengthening the safety oversight of these operations. Safety investigations have been initiated for each of these occurrences to identify contributing factors, including mechanical failures, operational errors, and weather-related challenges."

"Reaffirming its steadfast commitment to aviation safety, DGCA is responding proactively on these occurrences and has ordered special audits or enhanced surveillance for helicopter operators involved in shuttle services and charter operations in the state of Uttarakhand."

According to the DGCA, directives have been issued to all helicopter operators, restricting operations to 'Out of Ground Effect' (OGE) conditions until further orders.

LIVE MONITORING

Besides, the regulator said that it is actively monitoring live camera feeds provided by the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) at Kedarnath to detect any deviations from standard operating procedures (SOPs).

In a recent enforcement action, DGCA suspended the operations of two helicopter operators for two hours for failing to adhere to SOPs.

Furthermore, the operations of Kestrel Aviation have been suspended with immediate effect pending investiga-

tion, the regulator said. In addition, the DGCA has stationed a team at Sahasthradhara helidrome in Dehradun to monitor chopper operations.

On Sunday, sources told *businessline* that the regulator has come down heavily on chopper operators and is conducting on-the-ground surveillance and reviews of operations.

"DGCA's teams have been working round the clock to ensure that safety norms are being followed. If need be, then stricter steps will be taken by the regulator to ensure absolute compliance with safety norms," sources said.

The Chardham yatra includes pilgrimage to shrines such as Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath between May-June and September-October.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

IndiGo eyes new markets, to induct Airbus XLR aircraft by December

BETTER TIMINGS. With Airbus A321 XLR, airline will gain 2-hour advantage over its current Airbus 321 flights

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

IndiGo will expand its fleet with the induction of Airbus A321 XLR (extra long range) aircraft in December, which will enable the carrier to tap into new markets.

Speaking to *businessline*, IndiGo's Chief Executive Pieter Elbers said the induction of XLR aircraft is part of IndiGo's growth strategy, which aims to make the airline a major player in the global aviation industry by 2030.

"The XLR is actually right in between," Elbers said, referring to the aircraft's range, which is two hours more than the airline's current Airbus 321 flights.

"So there's a range of flights that are two hours more than what we have today on our Airbus 321 flights and provide an oppor-

tunity both to open new markets as well as to get a stronger position on other markets," he said.

At present, IndiGo operates over 2,200 daily flights, serving over 140 domestic and international destinations.

GLOBAL ROUTES

The introduction of the XLR aircraft will enhance IndiGo's international capabilities in the medium-to-long-haul segment. The aircraft with a range of 8,700 km will bring Seoul and Athens, among other destinations, within the range of some Indian cities. IndiGo has 69 XLRs on order.

The XLRs will enable IndiGo to reach destinations in Europe and North-East Asia that were previously inaccessible. Further, it will increase the number of routes served overseas, opening up opportunities to serve mul-



Mumbai will have more flights to West Asia than Delhi. Delhi will have more flights to Central Asia than Mumbai

PIETER ELBERS
CEO, IndiGo



tiple points from India.

"The XLR aircraft will bridge the gap between the airline's current Airbus 321 flights and its long-haul flights, which will be operated by A350 aircraft (from 2027 onwards)," he said.

According to Elbers, the XLR aircraft will offer opportunities to open new markets and provide direct connectivity from more Indian cities to Nairobi, Denpasar (Indonesia), and Athens.

India's geographical posi-

tion, he said, is advantageous for expanding operations, with 65 per cent of the world's population within a 5- to 6-hour flying radius.

MULTI-HUB STRATEGY

Besides, Elbers highlighted that XLR aircraft will solidify IndiGo's multi-hub strategy, with different hubs focusing on specific regions.

"Mumbai, for example, will have more flights to West Asia than Delhi. Delhi will have more flights to

Central Asia than Mumbai. Hyderabad has some very specific flights, even domestic ones," he said.

In the current fiscal year, IndiGo plans to launch direct flights to 10 international destinations, including London, Athens, Amsterdam and Manchester.

Elbers cited that the airline's goal is to build a self-reliant direct flight network for India. "We have started the strategy towards 'new heights and across new frontiers,'" Elbers said.

To achieve this, IndiGo is expanding its fleet with the introduction of Boeing 787 aircraft.

IndiGo has also increased its order for wide-body Airbus A350 aircraft and partnered with Air France-KLM, Delta, and Virgin Atlantic Airways to offer passengers connectivity to over 30 destinations in Europe and the US.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

DGCA orders special audits of Char Dham heli operators

DEEPAK PATEL
New Delhi, 9 June

Due to multiple safety incidents during the ongoing Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Monday ordered special audits and enhanced surveillance of helicopter operators conducting shuttle and charter services in the state.

The aviation regulator, in a statement, also said it is reviewing the need to suspend helicopter operations to Char Dham entirely, depending on the outcome of ongoing safety assessments.

The move comes after several recent occurrences — including emergency landings and a fatal crash — raised serious questions about the safety of helicopter services on the high-altitude pilgrimage routes.

The DGCA said it has launched investigations into each incident to determine contributing factors such as technical faults, pilot error, and weather conditions.

As part of immediate safety measures, the DGCA has directed all helicopter operators in Uttarakhand to conduct flights only under out-of-ground effect (OGE) conditions until further notice. Flying in OGE conditions means helicopters must stay at a height where they can no longer rely on the cushioning effect of the ground to help them hover. While this requires more engine power, it is considered safer in hilly and high-altitude areas as it allows for better control during flight.

To strengthen real-time oversight, the DGCA said it is now actively monitoring live video feeds from the Kedarnath helipad provided by the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority. On Monday, two helicopter operators were found violating standard operating procedures related to parking protocols, leading to a two-hour suspension of their operations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

फ्लाई 91 सेन सोलापुर से गोवा के लिए शुरू की उड़ान सेवा

सोलापुर। आंचलिक मार्गों पर सेवायें दे रही एयरलाइन फ्लाई 91 ने सोमवार को गोवा-सोलापुर-गोवा मार्ग पर परिचालन शुरू किया। एयरलाइन की ओर से जारी एक विज्ञप्ति के अनुसार इस मार्ग पर उसकी पहली उड़ान का महाराष्ट्र में सोलापुर हवाई अड्डे पर पारंपरिक जल तोप की सलामी के साथ उद्घाटन किया गया। सोलापुर से गोवा के लिए फ्लाई 91 की सेवा को केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन और सहायता राज्य मंत्री मुरलीधर मोहोले ने समारोह पूर्वक हरी झंडी दिखा कर गोवा के लिए प्रस्थान कराया। समारोह में सोलापुर जिले के संरक्षक मंत्री जयकुमार गोरे, कई विधायक, प्रशासन, भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण और फ्लाई 91 के अधिकारी उपस्थित थे। महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री देवेन्द्र फडणवीस तथा उप मुख्यमंत्री अजित पवार और एकनाथ शिंदे ने इस अवसर पर शुभकामना संदेश भेजा था। फ्लाई 91 ने पांच वर्षों में 50 से अधिक शहरों को जोड़ने और इसके लिए 30 विमान शामिल करने की योजना बनायी है। कंपनी ने एटीआर 72-600 विमानों का चयन किया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE DAILY GUARDIAN

DELHI

9 JUNE 2025

CM Saini to inaugurate Hisar-Chandigarh flight service today

NEERAJ MOHAN
CHANDIGARH

In a boost to regional connectivity, Haryana is all set to get a new flight service between Hisar and Chandigarh starting June 9 as the Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will inaugurate the flight at 3:20 PM on Monday.

The flight, operated by Alliance Air using an ATR-72 aircraft, will reduce travel time between the two cities, offering a 60-70 minute journey compared to the

four to five hours by road or seven hours by train.

As per the official sources the flight schedule, released by Alliance Air, outlines departures from Chandigarh's Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport at 3:20 PM, arriving at Hisar's Maharaja Agrasen Airport by 4:30 PM. The return flight will leave Hisar at 4:55 PM, landing in Chandigarh at 5:55 PM, operating every Monday and Friday. With an introductory one-way fare ranging from Rs 1449 to

Rs 1704, the service aims to make air travel accessible to a broader population, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of affordable air travel for all.

"This new service is a game-changer for Haryana," said CM Saini, emphasizing the economic and social benefits of improved connectivity. "It will not only save time but also boost trade, tourism, and development in the region." The launch follows the recent inauguration of Hisar's

Maharaja Agrasen Airport by PM Modi on April 14, which marked the start of flight operations with a Hisar-Ayodhya route. The airport, part of a 7200-acre Integrated Aviation Hub, is poised to become a key regional hub, with plans for an international terminal by 2030 under a Rs 3700 crore expansion project.

The Hisar-Chandigarh route is expected to strengthen ties between Haryana's industrial hub and its capital, covering the

252 km distance in under an hour. "This is a step toward realizing PM Modi's dream of making air travel a reality for the common man," Saini added, referencing the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) that has facilitated this initiative. The scheme, backed by a Memorandum of Understanding with Alliance Air, also includes plans for flights to Ayodhya, Jaipur, Jammu, and Ahmedabad, with some routes already operational and others slated for May.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

पर्यटन सीजन में एकमात्र उड़ान के सहारे सैलानी

उत्तराखंड

रुद्रपुर, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। कुमाऊं में सैलानियों का तांता लगा हुआ है और सड़क परिवहन की व्यवस्था चरमरा रही है। वहीं इस बीच हवाई सेवा ने भी सैलानियों को झटका दिया है।

पंतनगर एयरपोर्ट से दिल्ली जाने वाली सुबह की पहली फ्लाइट 15 जून से बंद होने वाली है। पंतनगर एयरपोर्ट से अब तक नियमित रूप से दिल्ली के लिए दो फ्लाइट का संचालन हो रहा था। वहीं अब इनमें से एक फ्लाइट बंद होने से

■ पंतनगर एयरपोर्ट से अब दिल्ली के लिए रह जाएगी सिर्फ एक फ्लाइट

दिल्ली से आने वाले सैलानियों के लिए एक ही उड़ान का विकल्प रहेगा।

पिछले करीब डेढ़ साल में पंतनगर से कई शहरों को जाने वाली फ्लाइट बंद हो गई हैं। इससे कुमाऊं के लिए एयर कनेक्टिविटी लगातार कम हो रही है। पूर्व में पंतनगर एयरपोर्ट से देहरादून के लिए विमान सेवा का संचालन होता था। यह सेवा साल भर से बंद है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

सख्ती | मेसर्स केस्ट्रल एविएशन प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के संचालन को जांच पूरी होने तक बंद किया

चारधाम यात्रा में हेलीकॉप्टर हादसों पर कार्रवाई

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। चारधाम यात्रा के दौरान लगातार हो रहे हेलीकॉप्टर हादसों पर नागर विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने सख्त कार्रवाई की है।

नियमों का उल्लंघन करने पर मेसर्स केस्ट्रल एविएशन प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के संचालन को जांच पूरी होने तक तत्काल प्रभाव से निलंबित कर दिया गया। साथ ही, सोमवार को दो हेलीकॉप्टर ऑपरेटर द्वारा एसओपी का पालन करने में विफल रहने पर उनके संचालन को दो घंटे के लिए निलंबित किया गया।

लाइव कैमरा फीड से निगरानी की जा रही

केदारनाथ में उत्तराखंड नागरिक उड्डयन विकास प्राधिकरण (यूसीएडीए) द्वारा प्रदान किए गए लाइव कैमरा फीड के जरिए भी सक्रिय रूप से निगरानी की जा रही है। हेलीकॉप्टर ऑपरेटरों द्वारा मानक संचालन प्रक्रियाओं (एसओपी) का उल्लंघन करने पर वास्तविक समय में पता लगाया जा रहा है, जिससे तत्काल सुधारात्मक उपाय किए जा सकते हैं।

डीजीसीए को तरफ से जानकारी दी गई है कि दोनों हेलीकॉप्टर ऑपरेटर विशेष तौर पर उचित हेलीकॉप्टर पार्किंग प्रक्रिया का पालन करने में विफल रहे, जिसके बाद यह कार्रवाई की गई। हाल ही में उत्तराखंड में चार धाम यात्रा के दौरान हेलीकॉप्टर

संचालन से जुड़ी कई घटनाएं सामने आई हैं, इसके बाद डीजीसीए ने सुरक्षा निगरानी को सख्त किया है। प्रत्येक घटना के लिए सुरक्षा जांच शुरू की गई है, ताकि यह पता चलाया जा सके कि हादसे के पीछे की असल कारण क्या रहे? क्या कोई तकनीकी खराबी,

परिचालन गड़बड़ी या फिर मौसम संबंधी चुनौतियों के चलते हादसा हुआ। इसके साथ ही, डीजीसीए ने उत्तराखंड राज्य में शटल सेवाओं और चार्टर संचालन में शामिल हेलीकॉप्टर ऑपरेटरों के लिए विशेष ऑडिट च निगरानी बढ़ाने का आदेश दिया है। सभी हेलीकॉप्टर ऑपरेटरों को निर्देश दिया है कि अगले आदेश तक आउट ऑफ ग्राउंड इफेक्ट की शर्तों के तहत संचालन को प्रतिबंधित किया गया है। आवश्यकता पड़ने पर चार धाम में हेलीकॉप्टर संचालन को कम करने को लेकर भी समीक्षा की जा रही है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

After series of accidents, DGCA to review Char Dham yatra helicopter operations

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation will review helicopter operations to determine if services for the Char Dham yatra in Uttarakhand need to be curtailed after as many as four accidents occurred in the past month, the DGCA said on Monday.

The aviation safety regulator barred Kestrel Aviation Private Limited from providing helicopter services, pending inquiry into a mishap on June 7 in Rudraprayag district when an Agusta Westland 119 chopper made a precautionary landing on a road stretch soon after taking off from the Sirsi helipad. Five passengers and a pilot on-



People gather outside Kedarnath temple ahead of its opening, in Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand on May 1. PTI

board escaped unhurt.

The DGCA has also ordered "enhanced surveillance" for helicopter operators involved in shuttle services and charter operations in Uttarakhand, the

regulator said in a statement.

The incident on June 7 was the fourth such incident in a month and the DGCA has instituted an enquiry into all incidents.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

DGCA ramps up measures for safety oversight of helicopters

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said on Monday it had intensified safety oversight of helicopter operations in Uttarakhand and introduced live monitoring and surprise audits. The move comes in the backdrop of four helicopter-related accidents that have occurred since the Char Dham Yatra began on April 30, one of them claiming six lives.

The regulator suspended the services of two operators for two hours on Monday for violating standard operating procedures (SOPs). One of them was Kestrel Aviation involved in the latest incident that happened on June 7 when a helicopter of the operator had to make an emergency landing on the Kedarnath

DGCA SUSPENDED THE SERVICES OF TWO OPERATORS FOR TWO HOURS ON MONDAY FOR VIOLATING SOPs

National Highway due to a technical fault. While the pilot sustained minor injuries, passengers were unharmed.

As a precaution, the DGCA also launched special audits and instructed operators to fly only under Out of Ground Effect (OGE) conditions, which are considered safer for take-off and landing in high-altitude zones.

"Directives have been issued restricting operations to OGE conditions till further orders. The DGCA is also reviewing the

need to curtail helicopter operations to Char Dham if required," the regulator said in a statement.

To strengthen real-time oversight, the regulator has also begun monitoring live video feeds from Kedarnath, provided by the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority, to spot violations on the ground.

The aviation watchdog said that investigations are underway to determine causes behind the recent incidents.

On May 8, a helicopter en route to Gangotri shrine crashed in Uttarkashi, killing five pilgrims and the pilot. A passenger survived with critical injuries.

On May 12, a helicopter's blade struck a vehicle at the Badrinath helipad and on May 17, an AIIMS-Rishikesh air ambulance crash-landed near Kedarnath. No casualties were reported.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

9 JUNE 2025

Reliance Infra takes flight with ₹5k cr bet on aircraft upgrade biz

Press Trust of India

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NEW DELHI: Reliance Infrastructure is looking to turbocharge its defence vertical with a focus on aircraft upgrade programmes, eyeing an opportunity of ₹5,000 crore over the next 7-10 years, sources said.

This strategic foray positions Reliance Infrastructure as India's first private sector company to independently execute a comprehensive aircraft upgrade programme without being the original manufacturer — a domain traditionally dominated by public sector units and OEMs.

According to a company source, the company has already marked a significant milestone by successfully upgrading 55 Dornier-228 aircraft under a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), in collaboration with US-based avionics firm Genesys. Initially awarded a contract for 37 aircraft, Reliance secured a repeat order for an additional 18 units following the successful execution of an earlier contract.

The total value of the Dornier upgrade contract was ₹350 crore, sources said.

The upgraded Dornier fleet is

**GLOBALLY,
MILITARY
AIRCRAFT AND
HELICOPTER
UPGRADES
MARKET STANDS AT
OVER ₹5 LAKH CR
PER YEAR AND MAY
HIT ₹7 LAKH CR IN
SEVEN YEARS**

operational with the Indian Air Force, Indian Navy, and Indian Coast Guard.

With military aircraft and helicopters having a service life of 30-40 years, regular upgrades—particularly of avionics, mission systems, and safety equipment—are vital. Industry experts estimate that lifecycle investments in upgrades and MRO can reach up to 200-300% of the original acquisition cost of a platform.

Globally, the market for military aircraft and helicopter upgrades stands at over ₹5,00,000 crore annually, and is projected to rise to ₹7,00,000 crore in the next seven years.

India, with a vast inventory of legacy platforms, offers a substantial domestic opportunity,

especially as the armed forces modernise older fleets for next-gen warfare.

Reliance Infrastructure is now looking to scale up its aircraft and helicopter upgrade capabilities, working with global partners to deliver world-class solutions.

In addition to the Dornier upgrade success, the company is also a key player in the performance-based logistics (PBL) program for Rafale fighter jets in India, in partnership with Thales of France.

Reliance investments in this domain align with the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' while tapping into a multi-billion-dollar global market.

With its growing portfolio and proven execution, Reliance Infrastructure is poised to become a major private player in the defence aviation ecosystem, bridging the gap between cutting-edge global technology and the operational needs of India's armed forces.

For industry stakeholders and investors, Reliance's aircraft upgrade strategy represents a high-potential play in India's defence manufacturing and services sector, with scope for international collaboration and recurring revenue models.

प्लेन में मौत पर क्रू मेंबर्स को नहीं करना होगा जांच का लंबा इंतज़ार

■ नवीन निश्चल, एयरपोर्ट

अब अगर फ्लाइट के दौरान किसी यात्री की बीमारी से मौत हो जाती है, तो आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर प्लेन के लैंड होने के बाद एयर होस्टेस और अन्य क्रू मेंबर को पुलिस जांच के लिए घंटों इंतज़ार नहीं करना पड़ेगा। जैसे जबकी यात्री बाहर निकलते हैं, वैसे ही क्रू को भी अब समय पर जाने दिया जाएगा। पुलिस, क्राइम और फॉरेंसिक टीम अपनी जांच जारी रखेगी, लेकिन इससे क्रू को रोका नहीं जाएगा। इस फैसले की जानकारी एयरलाइंस को दे दी गई है।

एयरलाइंस की तरफ से उठाई गई थी समस्या : हाल में ही एयरपोर्ट परिसर में हुई एक मीटिंग में एयरलाइंस की तरफ से यह समस्या उठाई गई थी। मीटिंग में दिल्ली जिला मजिस्ट्रेट डॉ. सन्नी सिंह की अध्यक्षता में हुई थी। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली पुलिस की तरफ से भी इसको लेकर क्लियरेंस दे दिया गया कि उन्हें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। इससे घंटों फ्लाइट में सफर करके लौटे क्रू मेंबर सहित फ्लाइट के अन्य स्टाफ को अब आसानी होगी। जबकि पहले उन्हें जांच और पंचनामा होने तक रुकना पड़ता था।

■ जांच अपनी प्रक्रिया से चलेगी, क्रू मेंबर्स यात्रियों की तरह समय पर बाहर निकल सकेंगे

AI Image



DM, SDM, डायल के अधिकारी थे मौजूद

मीटिंग में एयरलाइंस के अधिकारियों के साथ अलग-अलग एजेंसियों के ऑफिसर भी मौजूद थे। जिनमें वसंत विहार और DDMA नई दिल्ली के एसडीएम प्रतीक राज यादव और डीडीएम के डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्रोजेक्ट ऑफिसर, एयरपोर्ट डॉ. विनोद भारद्वाज और डायल के अधिकारी भी उपस्थित रहे। कई मुद्दों को लेकर चर्चा की गई, उनमें से यह एक अहम मुद्दा था। काफी समय से क्रू मेंबर सहित अन्य स्टाफ को परेशानी बनी हुई थी। क्रू मेंबर्स का कहना है कि ऐसे मामलों में कई बार 7 से 8 घंटे तक का समय जांच में लग जाता था।



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

चारधाम यात्रा में हेलिकॉप्टर की उड़ानें 35% घटाई गईं

Maneesh.Aggarwal
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■ नई दिल्ली : उत्तराखंड में 8 मई से 7 जून तक हुए चार हेलिकॉप्टर हादसों की गंभीरता को देखते हुए एविएशन रेगुलेटर DGCA ने सोमवार को सख्त कदम उठाए हैं। उत्तराखंड में चारधाम यात्रा में श्रद्धालुओं को हेलिकॉप्टर की सर्विस दे रही 9 एविएशन कंपनियों में से एक केस्ट्रल एविएशन की सेवाओं पर तत्काल प्रभाव से रोक लगा दी गई है। साथ ही चारधाम यात्रा के लिए अब हेलिकॉप्टर सेवा दे रही कंपनियां मनमर्जी से टेक ऑफ नहीं कर सकेंगी। इनकी उड़ानों में 35 फीसदी तक की कटौती की गई है।

DGCA के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि उड़ानों में यह कटौती केदारनाथ, बद्रीनाथ, यमुनोत्री और गंगोत्री के लिए हेलिकॉप्टर सेवाएं दे रही एविएशन कंपनियों पर लगाई गई है। 25 से 35 फीसदी तक उड़ान कम करने की कैपिंग की गई है। केदारनाथ के लिए हेलिकॉप्टर सेवाओं को सबसे कम किया गया है।



एक महीने में चार हादसे हुए।

अधिकारी ने बताया कि असल में ऑडिट में देखा गया कि यह एविएशन कंपनियां विभिन्न हेलिपैड से चारधाम यात्रा के दौरान श्रद्धालुओं को इस तरह से कैरी कर रही थीं, जैसे हेलिपैड ना होकर, भीड़भाड़ वाला कोई रेलवे स्टेशन या बस स्टैंड हो।

इस मामले में NBT में सोमवार को ही चार हेलिकॉप्टर हादसों की खबर विस्तार से छपी गई थी। इसके बाद सोमवार शाम को DGCA ने यह कदम उठाया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

DGCA orders audit of helicopter services in Uttarakhand

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
New Delhi

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has ordered special audits/enhanced surveillance into helicopter operations involved in shuttle services in Uttarakhand following a spate of "occurrences" involving choppers during the Char Dham Yatra.

As a precautionary measure, DGCA is also reviewing the necessity of "curtailing" helicopter operations to Char Dham if required, it said.

On June 7, six people, including the pilot, had a narrow escape last Saturday when a Kestrel Aviation helicopter on its way to Kedarnath made an emergency landing on the

highway in Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand after developing a technical snag during take-off.

DGCA has also intensified its oversight of Char Dham helicopter operations by actively monitoring live camera feeds provided by the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) at Kedarnath, it said. Recently, multiple occurrences involving helicopter operations during the Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand have underscored the "necessity for further strengthening the safety oversight of these operations," the regulator said.

Safety investigation has been initiated for each of these occurrences to identify contributing factors, including

mechanical failures, operational errors, and weather-related challenges, according to the statement.

"Reaffirming its steadfast commitment to aviation safety, DGCA is responding proactively on these occurrences and has ordered special audits/enhanced surveillance for helicopter operators involved in shuttle services and charter operations in Uttarakhand," it said.

Additionally, it said, directives have been issued to all helicopter operators, restricting operations to OGE conditions till further order. "As a precautionary measure, DGCA is also reviewing the necessity of curtailing helicopter operations to Char Dham, if required," the DGCA said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

PUNJAB KESARI

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

डीजीसीए ने उत्तराखंड में हेलीकॉप्टर सेवाओं के ऑडिट का आदेश दिया

मुंबई, (पंजाब केसरी): विमानन सुरक्षा नियामक नागरिक विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने चार धाम यात्रा के दौरान हेलीकॉप्टरों से जुड़ी एक के बाद एक घटनाओं को देखते हुए उत्तराखंड में शटल सेवाओं में शामिल हेलीकॉप्टर परिचालनों की विशेष ऑडिट/बढ़ी हुई निगरानी के आदेश दिए हैं। एक आधिकारिक बयान में सोमवार को यह जानकारी दी गयी। इसमें कहा गया है कि एहतियाती उपाय के तौर पर डीजीसीए आवश्यकता पड़ने पर चार धाम के लिए हेलीकॉप्टर परिचालन में कटौती की आवश्यकता की भी समीक्षा कर रहा है। केदारनाथ जा रहे केस्ट्रेल एविएशन के एक हेलीकॉप्टर को उड़ान के दौरान तकनीकी खराबी आने के बाद उत्तराखंड के रुद्रप्रयाग जिले में राजमार्ग पर आपातकालीन लैंडिंग करनी पड़ी थी। सात जून को पायलट सहित छह लोग इस दुर्घटना में बाल-बाल बच गए थे। डीजीसीए ने केदारनाथ में उत्तराखंड नागरिक उड्डयन विकास प्राधिकरण (यूसीएडीए) द्वारा उपलब्ध कराए गए लाइव कैमरा फीड्स को सक्रिय रूप से निगरानी करके चार धाम हेलीकॉप्टर संचालन पर अपनी निगरानी भी तेज कर दी है। नियामक ने कहा कि हाल ही में उत्तराखंड में चार धाम यात्रा के दौरान हेलीकॉप्टर परिचालन से जुड़ी कई घटनाओं ने इन परिचालनों की सुरक्षा निगरानी को और मजबूत करने की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित किया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

Arunachal pushes for daily flights to Mechukha under UDAN scheme

In a significant step towards improving connectivity in Arunachal Pradesh's remote frontiers, tourism minister Pasang Dorjee Sona on Friday met with Union civil aviation secretary Samir Kumar Sinha to push for daily fixed-wing flights to Mechukha under the Government of India's UDAN scheme.

Currently dependent on limited helicopter services that don't operate in all weather conditions, Mechukha remains largely inaccessible during large parts of the year.

Emphasising the need for dependable, all-weather connectivity, the minister underscored the importance of year-round air access for the welfare of the local population and to tap into the region's untapped tourism potential.

"We are committed to improving infrastructure and connectivity in Mechukha. A daily flight to Itanagar will not only enhance the lives of locals but also boost tourism in the region. We look forward to working closely with the Civil Aviation Department to make this a reality," Sona, who represents Mechukha constituency in the Assembly, said.

Responding to the minister's request, the Civil Aviation Secretary instructed civil aviation director Sankesh Mehta to initiate engagement with airlines and begin the



bidding process for the Mechukha-Itanagar route under the UDAN scheme. Sona assured full state support, including necessary infrastructure and administrative facilitation.

The meeting also addressed the pending clearance of the Mechukha Civil Terminal. Deputy director general (DDG), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), Pratibha Ambedkar, assured the matter would be taken up on priority to expedite the process.

If approved, the proposal would mark a landmark moment in Arunachal Pradesh's aviation history, bringing one of its most strategically located regions significantly closer to the national mainstream, officials said.

Source: UNI



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

10 JUNE 2025

4 crashes in a month: DGCA may curtail Char Dham chopper ops

Saurabh.Sinha
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New Delhi: Chopper operations for ongoing Char Dham yatra in Uttarakhand may be curtailed following a spate of crashes in recent weeks. DGCA Monday said it has “ordered special audits and enhanced surveillance for helicopter operators involved in shuttle services and charter operations in Uttarakhand.”

Past one month alone has seen four crashes and the regulator has decided to get cracking on erring operators. “As a precautionary measure, DGCA is reviewing the necessity of curtailing helicopter operations to Char Dham if required,” it



CLOSE SHAVE

said in a statement.

Oversight on Char Dham helicopter operations have been enhanced by “actively monitoring live camera feeds provided by Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority at Kedarnath. Any deviation from standard operating procedures by heli-

copter operators is detected in real time, allowing for immediate corrective measures,” the statement read.

On Monday, two helicopter operators conducting shuttle and charter services to Kedarnath were found to have failed to adhere to SOPs. “As a result, action was taken, and their operations were suspended for two hours. DGCA has zero tolerance policy for safety violations, and Kestrel Aviation in Uttarakhand has been suspended with immediate effect pending investigation. This is further to suspension of operations of another operator for safety violations in May 2025,” the statement added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

9 JUNE 2025

Flight to Dubai cancelled due to technical glitch

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: A technical glitch forced Emirates Airlines to cancel its flight from Chennai to Dubai on Sunday. About 300 passengers who had arrived to board the flight were provided accommodation in nearby hotels.

The flight was scheduled to depart at 9.50am and moved from the stand at 9.40am. After reaching the taxiway, the pilots encountered a problem, and the flight could not proceed further. A towing vehicle was then brought in to move the aircraft across the runway to a remote parking bay located between the two runways.

Technicians attempted to fix the glitch but were unsuccessful, after which the flight was declared cancelled around 11.30am. Passengers were deboarded and taken back to the terminal.

The flight has been tentatively rescheduled to depart at 5.45am on Monday. While some passengers opted to find alternative flights to Dubai, others were provided accommodation to resume their journey on Monday.