



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

9 OCTOBER 2024

NCLT rebukes int'l airport in Jet Airways aircraft case

Pranali Lotlikar

MUMBAI

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), while hearing an application filed by Ace Aviation VIII Limited & Ors in the case of Jet Airways India, has rebuked Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL). The tribunal ruled that MIAL cannot enforce its lien over the three grounded aircraft, as the sale process is being conducted under an approved resolution plan.

The aircraft in question, parked at the airport since 2018, have been the subject of a legal dispute over unpaid dues. MIAL had claimed a significant sum in parking fees and related charges. However, the NCLT clarified that the sale of the aircraft, which includes Boeing 777 models, had already taken place as part of the resolution process.

Furthermore, the tribunal

directed the respondents, including the corporate debtor and the monitoring committee of the corporate debtor, to submit a detailed timeline attributing any delay in executing the sale-purchase agreements. The matter is

Says MIAL cannot enforce its lien over the 3 planes as sale process is being conducted under resolution plan

now set for further hearing on October 9.

Ace Aviation had filed a petition to expedite the implementation of a previous NCLT order dated October 17, 2023, which upheld their position as the successful bidder. They sought directions for resuming the sale process, citing concerns over the depreci-

ation and deteriorating condition of aircraft. The applicants also requested that MIAL's dues be settled through an escrow mechanism to prevent further delays.

During the hearing, the applicants emphasised that the aircraft had been sold on an "as is where is" basis. MIAL, however, contested the application, arguing that the resolution plan is under challenge before the Supreme Court and that the sale should be delayed until the matter is adjudicated.

The NCLT, referring to a December 2023 order by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, rejected MIAL's arguments, stating that the sale process should not be hindered by pending appeals. The tribunal noted that the sale must proceed without preconditions, with MIAL's claims to be resolved as per approved resolution plan.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

नवी मुंबई एयरपोर्ट से जल्द उड़ान भरेंगे सुखोई: शिंदे

नागपुर। महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे ने बुधवार को कहा, नवी मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से सुखोई विमान उड़ान भरेंगे। यह हमारे राज्य के लिए बहुत बड़ी उपलब्धि है। प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा राज्य में दस नए मेडिकल कॉलेजों का उद्घाटन करने पर शिंदे ने कहा कि महाराष्ट्र में सबसे ज्यादा मेडिकल कॉलेज हैं। उन्होंने कहा, 2014 तक 387 मेडिकल कॉलेज थे और अब 706 हो गए हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

Adani, Thales join up on airport apps

European major Thales will deploy a smart digital platform at seven airports operated by the Adani group that will centrally host all the necessary applications to improve overall airport management, security and passenger experience.

Thales and Adani Airport Holdings Ltd (AAHL) have announced a strategic partnership under which the company has bagged the contract to deploy the innovative airport operation control centre (APOC) at the seven airports—Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Jaipur, Lucknow, Mangaluru and Thiruvananthapuram, according to a release on Wednesday.

The company, which provides advanced technologies, has already deployed the Fly to Gate solution at seven airports since early 2024.

“Thales has been awarded to work on the design, integration and implementation of an end-to-end APOC solution for all AAHL-managed airports.

PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet settles \$132-mn dispute with leasing firm

Budget carrier SpiceJet has amicably settled a \$132-million dispute with aircraft leasing firm Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management (BBAM). The dispute, valued at \$131.85 million (₹1,107 crore) with the lessors - Horizon Aviation 1 Ltd, Horizon II Aviation 3 Ltd, and Horizon III Aviation 2 Ltd - has been resolved for \$22.5 million, SpiceJet said in a statement. All these lessors are under the management of BBAM.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

9 OCTOBER 2024

India's domestic air passenger traffic increases

NEW DELHI, Oct 8: Domestic air passenger traffic reached nearly 132.3 lakh in September, up by 0.8 per cent compared to 131.3 lakh in August, a report showed on Tuesday. The domestic passenger traffic data witnessed a year-on-year growth of 8.1 per cent, compared to 122.5 lakh in Sep-

tember last year, as per data by credit rating agency ICRA.

For the first half of current fiscal (FY25), domestic air passenger traffic was 795.5 lakh, a YoY growth of 5.6 per cent and 12.9 per cent higher than the pre-Covid level of 704.4 lakh in H1 FY2020.

In the first five months of

FY25, the international passenger traffic for Indian carriers stood at 135.9 lakh, with a YoY growth of 15.7 per cent and higher than the pre-COVID level of 92.2 lakh by 48.7 per cent.

The international passenger traffic for Indian carriers is expected to grow by 15-20 per cent in FY25. – IANS



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

लंदन से आ रही विस्तारा की उड़ान में बम की धमकी

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही विस्तारा की उड़ान में बुधवार को बम होने की धमकी मिली। फ्लाइट में बम होने की सूचना पर यात्रियों के बीच अफरातफरी मच गई। हालांकि, विमान को दिल्ली अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित उतार लिया गया। विमान में करीब 290 यात्री सवार थे।

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पुलिस उपायुक्त उषा रंगनानी ने बताया कि बुधवार 8.45 बजे सूचना मिली थी कि विमान में रखा बम जल्द ही फटने वाला है। विमान को सुबह 11.45 बजे सुरक्षित उतार लिया गया। विमान के शौचालय में बम होने के संदेश वाला कागज का एक टुकड़ा पाया गया।

विमानन कंपनी के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही उड़ान संख्या यूके 018 के चालक दल को विमान में बम की धमकी वाला नोट मिला था।

प्रवक्ता के अनुसार, प्रोटोकॉल पर अमल करते हुए संबंधित



फ्लाइट में सवार थे 290 यात्री, विमान को दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित उतारा

अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित किया गया और दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित रूप से उतरने के बाद विमान को अनिवार्य जांच के लिए 'आइसोलेशन बे' में ले जाया गया। काफी देर जांच करने के बाद सूचना को झूठा करार दे दिया गया।

प्रवक्ता ने एक बयान में कहा, हमने आवश्यक सुरक्षा जांच पूरी करने में संबंधित अधिकारियों के साथ पूरा सहयोग किया। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट थाना पुलिस बम की धमकी देने वाले की तलाश कर रही है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet settles \$132 m dispute with lessor

Our Bureau

Mumbai

In one of its largest settlements so far, SpiceJet has resolved a \$131.85-million dispute with lessor Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management.

The parties have agreed to end the dispute, with SpiceJet agreeing to pay \$22.5 million.

"This landmark settlement allows us to significantly reduce our liabilities, and reinforces our efforts to emerge as a more robust airline," Chairman and Managing Director of SpiceJet, Ajay Singh, said in a statement.

The settlement follows SpiceJet's successful Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP), which raised ₹3,000 crore last month.

Subsequently, the airline has paid pending salary and provident fund dues and also announced induction of 10 aircraft in the winter season.

Seven of these aircraft will be acquired on lease.

Exemption from GST gives foreign airlines a breather

SOME RESPITE. CBIC also notifies tax exemption for R&D grants to education institutions

Shishir Sinha
New Delhi

Foreign airlines have got a breather after the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) notified exemption from GST on services provided by the headquarter to the branch office here.

It has also notified exemption on research and development grant to an educational institution in India.

ON REGULARISATION

The notification is based on recommendations made by the GST Council in its meeting on September 9.

It recommended exempting import of services by a foreign airlines company from a related person or any of its establishments outside India, when made without consideration.

The council also recommended regularising the past period on 'as is where is' basis.

The exemption will come into effect from October 10.



POST-PANEL MEETING. The notification is based on recommendations made by the GST Council on September 9

It will be applicable provided that GST at applicable rates is paid by the establishment of the foreign airline company in India on transport of goods and passengers.

Also, a certificate from the Civil Aviation Ministry will be required which will state that the establishment of the foreign company in India is that of an airline company which has been designated by the foreign government under the applicable bilateral air services agreement with India.

Further, the certificate needs to mention that on a reciprocal basis, designated

Indian airlines are not subject to similar taxes for the same services appearing under the entry by the government of the country designating the foreign airline company.

CONTENTIOUS ISSUE

The issue became contentious after, earlier this year, the DGGI (Director General of GST Investigation) had issued show-cause notices to 10 major foreign airlines with a demand of ₹10,000 crore.

Now, all these demands will be regularised.

The same notification also

prescribed exemption for supply of research and development services by a government entity, research association, university, college or other institution, notified under the IT Act using government or private grants.

THREE CATEGORIES

Earlier, Finance Minister Nirmal Sitharaman had said that that R&D grant to three categories of research institution, college or university, will be exempted from GST. These include recognition under State laws, Central laws or one which has got exemption under income tax.

The exemption will be available to both government as well as private institutions and there will be no threshold, she said.

Explaining it further, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said that as many as seven educational institutions and universities across India received GST show-cause notices from the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) in August, demanding unpaid taxes amounting to ₹220 crore.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

Rolls-Royce leases two engines to Akasa Air



Mumbai: Rolls-Royce has concluded its first transaction from Gujarat's Gift City, leasing two CFM Leap-1B engines to Akasa Air. It inducted its 25th aircraft last month. The engine transaction between Akasa Air and Rolls-Royce leasing arm was carried out via sale and leaseback mode. [@AAI](#)

एयर इंडिया, विस्तारा पायलटों की करियर प्रगति योजना पर मंथन तेज

दीपक पटेल
नई दिल्ली, 9 अक्टूबर

अगले महीने विलय की तैयारी कर रही एयर इंडिया और विस्तारा में करियर प्रगति योजना से उनके पायलटों में हलचल तेज हो गई है। एयर इंडिया ने अपने 2,144 पायलटों में से करीब 20 प्रतिशत को बड़े आकार के विमान में 'कन्वर्जन' या फर्स्ट ऑफिसर से कैप्टन के पद पर 'अपग्रेड' करने के लिए भेजा है। साथ ही एयरलाइन ने इस वर्ष अपने भर्ती लक्ष्य में 100 से अधिक पायलटों की कटौती की है।

इसी तरह विस्तारा में भी पायलटों की बेचैनी बढ़ गई है। विस्तारा में कुछ पायलट इस बात से नाराज हैं कि एयर इंडिया के उनके सहकर्मियों ने इन पदोन्नतियों में उन्हें पीछे छोड़ दिया है।

एयर इंडिया ने अपने एक आंतरिक दस्तावेज में कहा, 'हमारी विस्तार योजनाएं न्यूनतम बाहरी नियुक्तियों के साथ करियर प्रगति योजना के अनुरूप समूह में आंतरिक तौर पर स्थानांतरण के

जरिये पूरी की जाएंगी।'

आंतरिक 'करियर प्रोग्रेसन पॉलिसी' के प्रभाव का जिक्र करते हुए एयर इंडिया ने कहा है, 'हमने चालू वित्त वर्ष में पहले ही 98 बेड़ों (उपर्युक्त पायलट 'कन्वर्जन') और 51 कमांड अपग्रेड कर लिए हैं, जिससे पायलटों की नियुक्ति के लक्ष्य में 100 से अधिक की कमी आई है।'

एयर इंडिया ने रविवार को बिजनेस स्टैंडर्ड द्वारा इस संबंध में पूछे गए सवालों का जवाब नहीं दिया। विस्तारा ने भी बुधवार को इस बारे में कोई प्रतिक्रिया नहीं दी।

एयर इंडिया के 73 नैरो-बॉडी विमान के लिए मौजूदा समय में 1,029 'लाइन-रिलीज्ड' पायलट हैं और इनमें से करीब 17 प्रतिशत कन्वर्जन या अपग्रेड की प्रक्रिया से गुजर रहे हैं। 'लाइन-रिलीज्ड' ऐसे पायलट हैं जिन्होंने अपनी ट्रेनिंग पूरी कर ली है और विशेष विमान उड़ाने के लिए प्रमाणित हैं। एयरलाइन के 53 वाइड-बॉडी यानी बड़े आकार के विमान के लिए 1,115 'लाइन-रिलीज्ड' पायलट हैं, जिनमें से करीब 21.1 प्रतिशत

कन्वर्जन या अपग्रेड की प्रक्रिया से गुजर रहे हैं।

इस बीच, विस्तारा के पायलटों ने सीईओ विनोद कन्नन को लिखे पत्र में आरोप लगाया है कि एयर इंडिया के पायलटों को उनसे पहले कन्वर्टेड और अपग्रेड किया जा रहा है। पत्र में पायलटों ने दावा किया है कि यह परंपरा बोस्टन कंसल्टिंग ग्रुप (बीसीजी) द्वारा कई महीने पहले दोनों एयरलाइनों के पायलटों के लिए तैयार किए गए करियर प्रगति ढांचे का उल्लंघन है।

कन्नन ने मंगलवार शाम को इन पायलटों को जवाब दिया। उन्होंने कहा, 'कैरियर प्रोग्रेसन लिस्ट (सीपीएल) के कथित उल्लंघन के संबंध में स्थिति हमेशा से यही रही है कि संबंधित एओसी (एयर ऑपरेटर सर्टिफिकेट) परिचालन आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार अपने ट्रेनर की प्रगति का प्रबंधन करेंगे। बीसीजी द्वारा पिछले साल अपने प्रोजेक्शन में इसका स्पष्ट रूप से जिक्र किया गया था और कई अवसरों पर इसे दोहराया गया।'

विस्तारा का 11 नवंबर तक एयर इंडिया में विलय हो जाएगा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet settles \$132 mn dispute with BBAM

SpiceJet on Wednesday said it had settled a \$132-million dispute with aircraft leasing firm Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management (BBAM). The dispute, valued at \$131.85 million with the lessors — Horizon Aviation 1 Ltd, Horizon II Aviation 3 Ltd, and Horizon III Aviation 2 Ltd — had been resolved for \$22.5 million, SpiceJet said in a statement. The settlement, which came after the company raised ₹3,000 crore through a QIP last month, will help SpiceJet strengthen its balance sheet and reduce overall liabilities, it said.

PTI

MERGER PAINS

A-I, Vistara in churn over pilot career progression plan

Vistara pilots claim A-I colleagues leapfrogging them in promotion

DEEPAK PATEL

New Delhi, 9 October

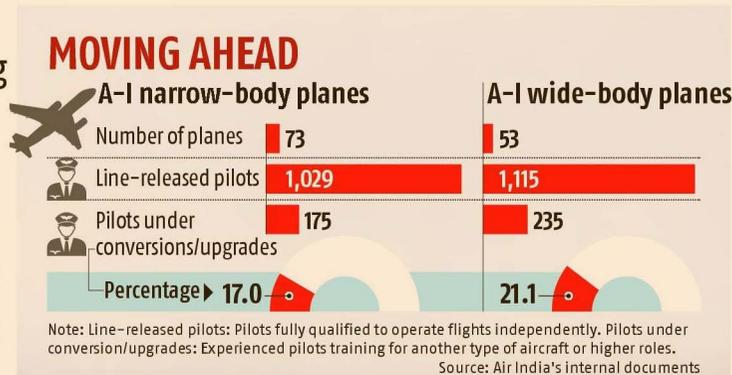
The career progression plan at Air India (A-I) and Vistara, the two airlines set to merge next month, is causing a shake-up among its pilots. Air India has sent nearly one-fifth of its 2,144 pilots for “conversion” to wide-body aircraft or “upgrade” from first officer to captain, while also slashing its hiring target by over 100 pilots this year.

Meanwhile, tensions are simmering at Vistara, where some pilots are fuming over Air India colleagues leapfrogging them in these promotions, fuelling resentment within the ranks.

“(Our) expansion requirements are planned to be met through in-house group transfers as per the career progression path with minimal external hiring,” Air India stated in one of its internal documents, which have been reviewed by *Business Standard*.

“We have already processed 98 fleet upgrades (the aforementioned pilot ‘conversions’) and 51 command upgrades in the current financial year, reducing hiring targets by 100 plus pilots,” Air India stated while explaining the impact of the internal “career progression policy”.

Pilots undergoing “conversion” are



transitioning to new aircraft types, while those in “upgrade” are advancing to higher roles, such as from captain to trainer. Both processes involve specialised training, including ground school and supervised flights. Air India did not respond to the queries sent by *Business Standard* on Sunday.

Vistara did not respond to the newspaper’s request for a statement sent on Wednesday.

Air India has 1,029 “line-released” pilots for its 73 narrow-body aircraft, with approximately 17 per cent of them undergoing conversion or

upgrade. “Line-released” refers to pilots who have completed their training and have been certified to fly specific aircraft. For its 53 wide-body aircraft, the airline has 1,115 “line-released” pilots, of whom around 21.1 per cent are also being converted or upgraded, Air India stated in its documents.

The fresh recruits will be provided by the Air India Aviation Academy, which has started ground classes in Gurugram. Meanwhile, a group of Vistara pilots has written to Chief Executive Officer Vinod Kannan, alleging that Air India pilots are being

converted and upgraded ahead of them. In their letter, the Vistara pilots said this practice violated the career progression framework, prepared by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) several months ago, for pilots of both the airlines. In his reply on Tuesday evening, Kannan stated: “On alleged transgression of the Career Progression List (CPL), the position has always been that the respective AOCs (Air Operator Certificates) will manage their trainer progressions as per operational requirements. This was clearly outlined by BCG in their presentation last year and has been reiterated on multiple occasions.”

“At Vistara, we had appointed LTCs (Line Training Captains) as required for our own operations. The position is always that post-merger, the movement to wide body or training positions will follow the CPL and we very much intend to keep to this. Now that the CPL is public and the merger is upon us, I am sure that you will see this in action soon,” Kannan added. Air India officials stated both airlines planned to convert and upgrade pilots based on the speed of aircraft induction and the eligibility criteria outlined on the Career Progression List (CPL). They noted the airline continued to hire “laterally” and recently conducted roadshows in cities like Mumbai and Delhi to facilitate this.

“Once the merger is finalised, the CPL seniority list will be actively followed,” an Air India official said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

स्पाइसजेट ने लीजिंग कंपनी के साथ 1,107 करोड़ रुपए का विवाद सुलझाया

बिजनेस संवाददाता | मुंबई

स्पाइसजेट तेजी से अपनी स्थिति सुधार रही है। बुधवार को इसने लीजिंग कंपनी बैबकॉक एंड ब्राउन एयरक्राफ्ट मैनेजमेंट के साथ 1,107 करोड़ रुपए का विवाद सुलझा लिया। इसके चलते बीएसई पर स्पाइसजेट के शेयर 4.71% तेजी के साथ 65.76 रुपए पर बंद हुए। ट्रेडिंग के दौरान इस शेयर में 8% से ज्यादा उछाल देखी गई थी। स्पाइसजेट ने

मंगलवार को ही नवंबर के अंत तक फ्लीट में 10 विमान जोड़ने की घोषणा की थी। इसमें से एक एयरक्राफ्ट 10 अक्टूबर को ही इसकी फ्लीट से जुड़ जाएगा। इससे पहले कंपनी ने कर्मचारियों को बकाया वेतन दे दिया था और ईपीएफ ड्यू भी क्लियर कर दिया था। स्पाइसजेट के सीएमडी अजय सिंह ने कहा, 'अब हम ग्रोथ पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने, फ्लीट के सभी विमानों को ऑपरेशनल करने और सर्विस विस्तार के लिए अच्छी स्थिति में हैं।'



Corporate Communications Directorate

RS DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

लंदन से दिल्ली आने वाले विमान में बम की सूचना फर्जी निकली

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

लंदन से नई दिल्ली आ रही विस्तारा की उड़ान उड़ान संख्या (यूके-18) में किसी ने देखा कि शौचालय में पड़े टिश्यू पेपर पर लिखा है, 'इस फ्लाइट में बम है'। इस दौरान यह सूचना क्रू सदस्यों को दी गई। इसके बाद यह जानकारी तत्काल पायलट के माध्यम से एटीसी को मिली। एटीसी ने एयरपोर्ट आपरेशन कमांड सेंटर को अवगत कराया। सुबह पौने नौ बजे मिली इस सूचना के बाद विमान तीन घंटे तक हवा में रहा। इसके बाद सभी एजेंसियों के अधिकारी जुटे और प्राथमिकता के आधार पर विमान की लैंडिंग कराने और आइसोलेशन एरिया में ले जाकर तलाशी लेने का निर्णय लिया गया।

तीन घंटे बाद 11:45 बजे जब विमान ने आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर लैंडिंग की तब सभी एजेंसियां यहां सक्रिय थीं। टैक्सी वे

शौचालय में टिश्यू पेपर पर किसी ने लिखा था कि इस विमान में है बम

तीन घंटे की उड़ान के बाद आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर कराई गई सुरक्षित लैंडिंग

के रास्ते विमान आइसोलेशन एरिया में ले जाया गया। यहां सीआरपीएफ, दिल्ली पुलिस, अग्निशमन व बम निरोधक दस्ता सभी के कर्मी मौजूद थे। उड़ान के दौरान ही यात्रियों को क्रू सदस्यों ने बता दिया था कि जैसे ही गेट खोले जाएंगे वैसे ही यात्री बिना केबिन लगेज लिए ही उतर जाएं। विमान में सवार सभी 135 यात्री व क्रू सदस्य उतारे गए। यात्रियों से कहा गया कि वे डिपार्चर गेट के पास जाएं। यात्रियों के उतरने के बाद एक्सरे जांच मशीन लाई गई। सभी लगेज की स्क्रीनिंग की गई। बम निरोधक दस्ते के जवानों ने विमान के चप्पे-चप्पे की तलाशी ली।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet Resolves \$132 M Dispute with Aircraft Leasing Co BBAM

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Low-cost carrier SpiceJet on Wednesday said it has successfully resolved its dispute with aircraft lessor BBAM through an amicable settlement.

The settlement comes soon after the airline managed to raise ₹3,000 crore through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP), giving it a lifeline amidst a severe financial crisis.

As part of this resolution, ELFC will withdraw its insolvency petition against the airline, SpiceJet informed stock exchanges. "This settlement with BBAM allows us to significantly reduce our liabilities. Together with the funds raised through our QIP, we are well-positioned to focus on growth, ungrounding our fleet, and expanding our services," said Ajay Singh, chairman and managing director of SpiceJet.

The airline had earlier settled disputes with some creditors, including Celestial Aviation, but several cases have been escalated to the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) by dissatisfied petitioners.

After the funding, the airline aims to have a fleet of 100 aircraft by the end of 2026 after securing a funding of ₹3,000 crore through a share sale process, Ajay Singh said, adding that he has managed amicable resolution with both aircraft manufacturers and lessors and ₹750 crore from the current funding will be used to settle the remaining.

GST Relief for Foreign Airlines, Edu Institutes

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Foreign airlines operating in India will not be liable to goods and services tax (GST) on services provided by the head office to a branch office, according to a government notification.

Academic institutions that have received grants for research will also be exempt from GST, as per another notification.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) issued several notifications to implement decisions taken at the 54th GST Council meeting.

The new rules will be effective from October 10.

Foreign airlines, however, will require a certificate from the civil aviation ministry saying that the establishment of the foreign company in India is under the applicable bilateral air services agreement. The GST Council had recommended that past demands be regularised on "as is where is" basis.

The CBDT also notified the relief for registered persons who have been issued notices under section 128A of the GST Act. They will get a waiver from penalty and inter-



est if they pay the tax and comply by March 31, 2025. Taxpayers facing demand orders under section 74(1), who have not filed an appeal, can also avail this relief. The notification aims to reduce the burden of penalties for those willing to comply, encouraging voluntary compliance and resolving disputes outside litigation and reducing burden on both taxpayers and the government, said experts.

The latest notifications also allow taxpayers to amend their past input tax credit discrepancies through a special rectification window.

The move aims to give taxpayers a second chance to correct genuine mistakes, resolving many pending litigations.

No GST on foreign airlines for service imports, says CBIC

PRIYANSH VERMA
New Delhi, October 9

THE CENTRAL BOARD of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has notified that foreign airline companies in India would be exempt from paying GST on services imported from their offshore branches. The circular follows a recommendation made by GST Council on September 9.

Experts say this would grant relief to the foreign airline industry for future transactions, but whether or not this notification is applicable for the past period is unclear at the moment. The Council, however, in its September meeting had recommended to regularise taxation of past transactions on 'as is where is' basis.

"Concerns have emerged regarding the applicability of the exemption, as the language of the notification suggests that the relief may only apply to future transactions, which is not supporting the earlier statements about retrospective application," said Sanjay Chhabria, indirect tax-lead at Nexdigm. As per industry sources, foreign airline companies are facing a tax liability to the tune of ₹40,000 crore, which is likely to be annulled.

Further, the exemption comes with certain conditions. For instance,

a foreign airline must secure certification from the ministry of civil aviation (MoCA), declaring the airline as a designated carrier under existing bilateral agreements. Additionally, Indian carriers must receive similar tax benefits in the airline's home country. Currently, the process for obtaining MoCA certification is not clearly defined, leaving airlines in limbo while they wait for further announcements, say experts.

CBIC has allowed rectification of past orders related to wrongful availment of input tax credit under GST

In a separate notification, the CBIC allowed for rectification of past orders related to the wrongful availment of input tax credit (ITC) under GST. Taxpayers can now correct past errors pertaining to compliance issues for

the period up to FY21, and then rightfully claim the ITC. As per the notification, taxpayers must submit an electronic application on the GST portal within six months from the date of this notification.

Sandeep Sehgal, partner-tax, AKM Global, said that this move is expected to ease the financial burden on industries that faced tax demands due to this issue. "The six-month window for rectification provides a lifeline for businesses to align their tax claims and will help in reducing disputes with tax authorities," he said.





Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet settles \$132-mn dispute with lessor BBAM



SPICEJET HAS AMICABLY settled a \$132-million dispute with aircraft leasing firm Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management, reports **PTI**. The dispute, valued at \$131.85 million with the lessors — Horizon Aviation 1, Horizon II Aviation 3, and Horizon III Aviation 2 — has been resolved for \$22.5 million, SpiceJet said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

9 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet to add 10 aircraft to its fleet by next mth

PTI

NEW DELHI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it will enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month with the first plane to be inducted on Oct 10.

Seven of these aircraft will be acquired on lease, while three previously grounded ones are being reintroduced, SpiceJet said in a release.

The Gurugram-headquartered airline has only 19 aircraft in operations while 36 planes were grounded as of Oct 8, according to Planespotter.net.

The announcement comes on the back of SpiceJet securing Rs 3,000 crore fresh capital infusion through QIP late last month.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

विस्तारा की उड़ान को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। लंदन से करीब 290 यात्रियों को लेकर दिल्ली आ रहे विस्तारा के विमान को बुधवार को बम की धमकी मिली। हालांकि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित उतरने के बाद विमान की गहन जांच के बाद यह अफवाह निकली।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि विमान में बम होने के संदेश वाला एक कागज का टुकड़ा शौचालय में मिला। इसके बाद संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित किया गया। दिल्ली पुलिस ने कहा कि मानक सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल का पालन किया गया और गहन जांच की गई। लेकिन कोई संदिग्ध

कर्मचारियों ने जताई थी घिंता

एयरलाइन के प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही फ्लाइट यूके 018 को संचालित करने वाले उसके कर्मचारियों ने सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंता जताई थी। प्रोटोकॉल के अनुसार, संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित किया गया और विमान को दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित रूप से उतरने के बाद अनिवार्य जांच के लिए आइसोलेशन बे में ले जाया गया।

वस्तु नहीं मिली। दिल्ली में हवाई अड्डा संचालन नियंत्रण केंद्र (एओसीसी) को सुबह 08.45 बजे बम की धमकी के बारे में सूचित किया गया। विमान को 11.45 बजे हवाई अड्डे पर उतरा गया। तलाशी के बाद चालक दल ने लिया निर्णय: सूत्रों के मुताबिक, बोइंग

787 विमान में करीब 290 यात्री सवार थे। विमान के हवा में होने के दौरान धमकी भरे संदेश वाला कागज मिलने के बाद, तलाशी ली, लेकिन कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं मिला। इसलिए, यह निर्णय लिया गया कि विमान को दूसरी दिशा में मोड़ने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

DELHI

9 OCTOBER 2024

Vistara pilots write to top brass alleging disparity in promotions

Jagriti Chandra

NEW DELHI

More than 80 pilots at Vistara have written to Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran and the airline's CEO Vinod Kannan alleging that they had been sidelined for promotions to widebody planes, ahead of the airline's merger with Air India next month.

In a letter to the top brass on Sunday, a copy of which was reviewed by *The Hindu*, Vistara pilots expressed displeasure at Air India pilots being promoted to widebody aircraft as well as to the position of trainers ahead of them. They alleged that this vio-

Vistara pilots allege Air India pilots are being promoted to widebody aircraft ahead of them

lated the career progression list prepared by the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) for the pilots of the two airlines, which stated that for every Vistara pilot promoted to widebody planes, three from Air India would be upgraded based on the staff strength of the two airlines.

Since the BCG list was finalised, Air India had promoted 100 captains and moved them to twin-aisle

Boeing 787, while only five had been upgraded in Vistara, they alleged.

In an email on Tuesday evening, also reviewed by *The Hindu*, Mr. Kannan wrote that the implementation of the career progression list for Vistara pilots for promotions to widebodies and for the post of trainers would take place after the merger.

On concerns over anomalies in pay and allowances, he sought to reassure them that increments over the next few years would be designed in a way to ensure the disparities are removed over time such that salaries of staff in the same cohort converge.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

9 OCTOBER 2024



Seven aircraft will be acquired on lease, while three grounded planes will be reintroduced. PTI

SPICEJET PLANS TO ENHANCE ITS FLEET, TO ADD 10 PLANES BY NEXT MONTH

Press Trust of India

feedback@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it will enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month with the first plane set to be inducted on October 10.

Seven of these aircraft will be acquired on lease, while three previously grounded ones are being reintroduced, SpiceJet said in a release.

The Gurugram-headquartered airline has only 19 aircraft in operations while as many as 36 planes were on grounded as of October 8 according to the live aircraft fleet tracking website, Planespotter.net.

The announcement comes on the back of SpiceJet securing Rs 3,000 crore fresh capital infusion through QIP late last month. The airline will receive an additional Rs 736 crore from a previous funding round, further bolstering its financial stability and growth trajectory.

SpiceJet said it has already signed agreements for the leased aircraft, with the full induction of all seven planes expected by November 15.

Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction, the airline said, adding that it will also operationalise its grounded planes in phases, with the first three set to re-enter service before the end of November.

"This addition (of 10 aircraft) is crucial as we continue to meet the growing demand for air travel while strengthening our operational capabilities," SpiceJet Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh said.

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Go to



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

9 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet announces fleet expansion, stock gains 9%

SpiceJet has announced expansion of its fleet by November end with the induction of 10 aircraft, including seven to be acquired on lease. The airline said three of its planes grounded earlier, would be reinducted.

SpiceJet said it had already signed agreements

for the leased aircraft, with the full induction of all seven planes expected by November 15.

“This addition is crucial as we continue to meet the growing demand for air travel,” Chairman and MD Ajay Singh said. SpiceJet stock gained 9.10% to ₹62.80 on the BSE.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

9 OCTOBER 2024

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Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

London-Delhi flight gets bomb threat; nothing suspicious found, say police

New Delhi: A bomb threat note was found on a London-Delhi Vistara Airlines Wednesday morning, police said. A search of the aircraft, however, showed nothing suspicious, they added.

According to police, around 8.45 am, the Aircraft Operations Control Centre at IGI Airport was alerted that a threatening note was found in the lavatory of the aircraft containing a message,

'BOMB THIS FLIGHT.' The flight, landed safely at 11.45 am, officers said. DCP (IGI Airport) Usha Rangnani said a comprehensive search of the aircraft was conducted and no suspicious items or devices were found on board.

A Vistara spokesperson said: "... In line with protocol, relevant authorities were immediately informed and the aircraft was taken to the isolation bay..." **ENS**

Aviation, power, green mobility to drive the scale-up of infrastructure

Industry veterans point out at the shifts in demand in their sectors due to changing consumer patterns

Manas Pimpalkare
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NEW DELHI

Shifting demand in areas such as airport infrastructure, power, and green mobility will drive India's need to scale up its infrastructure, according to experts.

Speaking at *Mint's* India2047 summit in the national capital, the panel, which comprised industry veterans, discussed the shifts in demand in their sectors due to changing consumer patterns.

Videh Kumar Jaipuria, CEO of Delhi International Airport Ltd, said the civil aviation sector will double in size by 2047 due to rapid growth in the number of flyers in India.

"Currently, India operates close to 780 aircraft, with orders for over 1,000 more. At the current growth rate, we expect the number of passengers, currently around 370 million—split between 185 million departures and 185 million arrivals—to double every 10 years with a 7% growth rate. By 2047, we could potentially see the sector double again in size," said Jaipuria.

He further added, "As more travel is promoted, there are increasingly more first-time travellers—about 15%—who are upgrading from railways to aviation. This shift is fuelling a growing hunger for travel from the grassroots level."

He said the government investments, along with investments made by private operators, provided the government with revenue to build more airports. "Delhi Airport has played a role in helping develop airports across the country. Most private airports have contributed to this by relieving the government from investment burdens," said Jaipuria.

"It's the private operators who are actually investing and also providing revenue share back to the Airports Authority of India (AAI). This revenue can then be invested into smaller, less frequently used airports," Jaipuria added.

He also pointed out that non-metro airports are growing faster than metro airports due to capacity constraints in major cities like Mumbai, Cities such as Patna and Bhubaneswar have experienced significant



(L to R) Videh Kumar Jaipuria, Vivek Vikram Singh, and Yashraj Khaitan

growth in recent years.

"Current trends indicate that civil aviation growth is happening across the board, with non-metro airports outpacing metro airports. Many metro airports are capacity constrained due to lagging infrastructure development. Although we typically create a 10-year master plan, the dynamics shifted significantly after 2016, leading to unexpected growth," he said.

Yashraj Khaitan, CEO of Polaris Smart Metering, said infrastructure was growing complex by the day, adding that smart metering would propel a radical shift in the power sector.

He said smart meters are like the UPI of the power infrastructure. "...just like everything that UPI has

enabled in finance, smart meters would start enabling for power."

Khaitan added that by linking power generation, transmission, and consumption through smart meters, a state such as Rajasthan can effectively create a virtual power plant without building new infrastructure. This digital approach could help increase renewable energy use from 20% to around 40-55%, he said.

Vivek Vikram Singh, managing director & group CEO, Sesa Constar, spoke on the central government's push for green mobility. "If you look at the two-wheeler industry where EVs have gained some traction, we've

actually performed much better, and we've done it in a slightly different way. Yes, there is still a dependency on batteries, but there are other aspects to consider. Can we replicate

that success across other segments of mobility? Yes, we can, and it will eventually happen," Singh said.

About investments in battery energy storage systems, he said, "So the best time to start building a battery ecosystem would have been 15 years ago. The second best time is now. There is no missing the bus when technology revolutions are concerned. What has happened is that we missed the first two waves," said Singh.

Khaitan focused on the power infrastructure requirements for rapidly growing urban areas such as Gurugram near the national capital. "If you look at Gurugram as a city, even today, any where between 15% and 20% of daytime electricity is supplied by diesel generators due to frequent power cuts, especially during the summer. The city's power infrastructure is not equipped to handle this demand," he said.

"Many areas in Gurugram that were originally residential have been converted to commercial spaces, significantly increasing power consumption. The city was never prepared for this level of infrastructure upgrade, nor did it foresee the scale of upgrades needed to meet these requirements," he added.

Civil aviation sector is expected to double in size by 2047 due to rapid growth in number of flyers in the country



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024



The dispute, valued at \$131.85 million, has been resolved for \$22.5 million, the airline said. **MINT**

SpiceJet settles dispute with lessor

Budget carrier SpiceJet on Wednesday said it has amicably settled a \$132-million dispute with aircraft leasing company Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management (BBAM).

The dispute, valued at \$131.85 million (₹1,107 crore) with the lessors—Horizon Aviation 1 Ltd, Horizon II Aviation 3 Ltd, and Horizon III Aviation 2 Ltd—has been resolved for \$22.5 million, SpiceJet said in a statement. All these lessors are under the management of BBAM.

The settlement, which comes after the company raised ₹3,000 crore via a qualified institutional placement (QIP) last month, will help SpiceJet strengthen its balance sheet and reduce overall liabilities, it said.

By resolving this major dispute, SpiceJet has cleared a significant hurdle, paving the way for improved financial stability and operational efficiency, the airline added. **PTI**



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

Turkish Airlines pilot dies mid-flight

NEW YORK: A Turkish Airlines jetliner headed from Seattle to Istanbul made an emergency landing in New York on Wednesday after the captain died on board, an airline official said.

Pilot İlçehin Pehlivan, 59, lost consciousness at some point after flight 204 took off from Seattle on Tuesday night, Turkish Airlines spokesperson Yahya Üstün said in a statement.

Medical intervention failed to revive the captain, and the co-pilot decided to make an emergency landing, but the captain died before the plane landed, Üstün said.

Data from the tracking site FlightAware shows that the Airbus A350 landed at John F. Kennedy International Airport just before 6 a.m.

Arrangements were being made for passengers to reach their destination from New York, the airline spokesperson said.

Pehlivan had worked at Turkish Airlines since 2007, Üstün said. A routine health check in March showed no health problems that would have prevented him from working, he said.

"As Turkish Airlines, we deeply feel the loss of our captain and extend our sincerest condolences to his bereaved family, colleagues, and all his loved ones," Üstün said.

AGENCIES



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

9 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet to enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month

MUMBAI: Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it will enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month with the first plane set to be inducted on October 10.

Seven of these aircraft will be acquired on lease, while three previously grounded ones are being reintroduced, SpiceJet said in a release.

The Gurugram-headquartered airline has only 19 aircraft in operations while as many as 36 planes were on grounded as of October 8 according to the live aircraft fleet tracking website, Plane-



spotter.net.

The announcement comes on the back of SpiceJet securing Rs 3,000 crore fresh capital infusion through QIP late last month.

The airline will receive an additional Rs 736 crore from a previous funding round,

further bolstering its financial stability and growth trajectory.

SpiceJet said it has already signed agreements for the leased aircraft, with the full induction of all seven planes expected by November 15.

Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction, the airline said, adding that it will also operationalise its grounded planes in phases, with the first three set to re-enter service before the end of November.

PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

9 OCTOBER 2024

'India has potential to produce 8-10 million tonnes of sustainable aviation fuel by 2040'

NEW DELHI: India has the potential to produce 8-10 million tonnes of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) by 2040, and investments worth \$70-85 billion will be required to achieve the projected production, according to a report.

In the report released on Tuesday, leading consultancy Deloitte India said the 8-10 million tonnes production of SAF would surpass the country's estimated domestic demand of 4.5 million tonnes for a 15 per cent blending mandate in 2040 across all flights.

The expected scenario could also position India as a leading SAF exporter serving global markets.

"Investments worth Rs 6-7 lakh crore (\$70-85 billion) would be required to realise the projected SAF production



capacity. It will give impetus to the aviation sector's decarbonisation efforts, reducing carbon emissions to 20-25 million tonnes annually," the report said.

India is one of the world's fastest-growing civil aviation markets, and efforts are going on to decarbonise the sector.

According to the report, the projected capital investment of Rs 6-7 lakh crore will also help create 1.1-1.4 million jobs across the value chain and reduce crude oil import bills by

\$5-7 billion annually.

"Further, SAF production can boost farmers' income by 10-15 per cent by using agricultural residue as feedstock, providing a sustainable alternative to the current practice of burning crop waste," it added.

The country's estimated surplus of 230 million tonnes of agricultural residue will be a crucial resource for producing SAF.

It will serve as a vital feedstock for ethanol (2G) production, a key component in the Alcohol-to-Jet (AtJ) technology pathway for SAF manufacturing.

Ethanol (2G or second generation) is produced from other non-food feedstock apart from molasses.

At the same time, the

report said, the AtJ route with ethanol (1G) produced from sugar and grain can provide an initial boost until the technology fully matures.

"Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Used Cooking Oil (UCO) will contribute to the overall potential. Alternate feedstock such as sweet sorghum, seaweed and industrial waste can give further impetus to SAF potential with technological maturity," it noted.

Prashanth Nutula, Partner at Deloitte India, said the drive to produce SAF is quickly becoming a reality globally and in India.

With a 2-3 per cent share in the global ATF market, India is favourably positioned in the global aviation fuel market, including SAF. P11

लंदन टु दिल्ली फ्लाइट में बम की धमकी

फ्लाइट के टॉयलेट में टिशू पेपर पर लिखा था बम की धमकी वाला मेसेज

करीब 300 यात्री और कू मंबर थे फ्लाइट में सवार, मचा हड़कंप

सुरक्षा जांच के चलते करीब 5 घंटे तक एयरपोर्ट पर फंसे रहे यात्री

■ एनबीटी न्यूज, नई दिल्ली

लंदन से विस्तार एयरलाइंस की फ्लाइट दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट आ रही थी। तभी फ्लाइट के अंदर बम होने की सूचना मिली और हड़कंप मच गया। उस वक्त फ्लाइट में करीब 300 यात्री और कू मंबर सवार थे। फ्लाइट करीब तीन घंटे बाद दिल्ली पहुंचने वाली थी। फ्लाइट के अंदर उस वक्त बम होने की सूचना मिली जब एक यात्री टॉयलेट के लिए गए थे। तब उन्होंने टिशू पेपर पर बम वाली धमकी देखी। वहीं एयरपोर्ट

सुरक्षा एजेंसी और आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पुलिस को जब बम की सूचना मिली तो तुरंत एयरपोर्ट पर प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करते हुए इमरजेंसी लगा दी गई।

एयरपोर्ट पर लगी इमरजेंसी, मची अफरातफरी

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की डीसीपी उषा रंगनानी ने बताया कि बुधवार सुबह 8:45 मिनट पर लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही विस्तार एयरलाइंस की में बम होने की सूचना मिली थी। पुलिस को बताया गया कि विमान के शौचालय में एक नोट मिला है, जिसमें बम होने की सूचना लिखी हुई है और विमान को उड़ाने की बात लिखी हुई थी। जिसके बाद मानक



AI Image

प्रोटोकॉल का पालन किया गया। तुरंत एयरपोर्ट पर सुरक्षा बढ़ा दी गई। सुबह करीब 11:45 मिनट पर विमान को सुरक्षित एयरपोर्ट पर उतारा गया। उसके बाद विमान की पूरी तरह से जांच की गई। हालांकि जांच के बाद कोई भी संदिग्ध वस्तु नहीं मिली।

एयरपोर्ट सुरक्षा के मुताबिक उस वक्त फ्लाइट में करीब 300 यात्री और कू मंबर थे। फ्लाइट को एयरपोर्ट के कोने वाले हिस्से में खड़ा किया गया। इसके बाद सुरक्षाकर्मियों ने चारों तरफ से विमान को घेर लिया। यात्रियों को बाहर निकाला गया। सभी के बैगेज चेक करने के लिए मोबाइल एक्स-रे स्कैनिंग बैंड बुलाई गई। चेकिंग के बाद पैसेंजर को डिपार्टर गेट नंबर-4 के पास बैठाया गया। सुरक्षा जांच तक किसी भी यात्री को टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग में जाने की इजाजत नहीं थी। जांच के कारण करीब 5 घंटे तक यात्री एयरपोर्ट के अंदर रहे। हालांकि यात्रियों के खाने पीने का ध्यान रखा गया।

SpiceJet to add ten new aircrafts by next month



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it will enhance its fleet by another 10 aircraft by next month with the first plane set to be inducted on October 10.

Seven of these aircraft will be acquired on lease, while three previously grounded ones are being reintroduced, SpiceJet said in a release.

The Gurugram-headquartered airline has only 19 aircraft in operations while as many as 36 planes were on grounded as of October 8 according to the live aircraft fleet tracking website, Planespotter.Net.

The announcement comes on the back of SpiceJet securing Rs 3,000 crore fresh capital infusion through QIP late last month.

The airline will receive an additional Rs 736 crore from

a previous funding round, further bolstering its financial stability and growth trajectory.

SpiceJet said it has already signed agreements for the leased aircraft, with the full induction of all seven planes expected by November 15.

Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction, the airline said, adding that it will also operationalise its grounded planes in phases, with the first three set to re-enter service before the end of November.

"This addition (of 10 aircraft) is crucial as we continue to meet the growing demand for air travel while strengthening our operational capabilities," SpiceJet Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

RASHTRIYA SAHARA

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही विस्तारा की उड़ान में बम की धमकी

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। लंदन से दिल्ली आ रहे विस्तारा के एक विमान में बुधवार को बम होने की धमकी मिली। हालांकि, विमान को दिल्ली अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित उतार लिया गया। सूत्रों ने बताया कि विमान के शौचालय में बम होने के संदेश वाले कागज का टुकड़ा पाया गया। इसके बाद संबंधित

अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित किया गया। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, विमान में लगभग 290 यात्री थे।

डीसीपी एयरपोर्ट ऊंचा रंगनानी ने मामले की पुष्टि करते हुए बताया कि मामला बुधवार

■ विमान के टॉयलेट में कागज के टुकड़े पर लिखी थी बम की सूचना

सुबह 8.45 बजे का है। फ्लाइट को सुबह 11.45 बजे सुरक्षित उतारा गया। इस दौरान सभी यात्री सुरक्षित रहे। विमानन कंपनी के

प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि लंदन से दिल्ली आ रही उड़ान संख्या यूके 018 के चालक दल को विमान में बम की धमकी वाला नोट मिला। प्रवक्ता के अनुसार, प्रोटोकॉल पर अमल करते हुए

संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित किया गया और दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित उतरने के बाद विमान को अनिवार्य जांच के लिए आइसोलेशन बे में ले जाया गया।

विशाल एयरबस 'बेलुगा' कोलकाता हवाईअड्डे पर उतरा

कोलकाता (भाषा)। कोलकाता हवाई अड्डे पर पहली बार सबसे बड़े एयरबस विमान 'बेलुगा एक्सएल' का पानी की बौछारों के साथ शानदार स्वागत किया गया। एक अधिकारी ने बुधवार को यह जानकारी दी।

'बेलुगा एक्सएल', 'बेलुगा एसटी' का उन्नत और बड़ा संस्करण है तथा यह बेलुगा श्रृंखला का सबसे बड़ा विमान है। 'एयरबस' की वेबसाइट के अनुसार, बेलुगा एक्सएल विमान की लंबाई 207 फुट, ऊंचाई 62 फुट है। इसके डैने 197 फुट लंबे तथा 10 इंच चौड़े हैं। वेबसाइट में कहा गया है, 'बेलुगा एक्सएल ने 2018 में अपनी पहली उड़ान भरी और नवंबर 2019 में यूरोपीय संघ विमानन सुरक्षा एजेंसी (ईएएसए) की उड़ान योग्यता प्राधिकरण से इसे 'टाइप' प्रमाणपत्र मिला। इसके बाद जनवरी 2020 में पहली बार बेलुगा एक्सएल की सेवा शुरू हुई।'

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण के प्रवक्ता ने बुधवार को एक बयान में कहा कि इससे पहले भी कोलकाता के नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर 'एसटी'

अड्डे पर 'एक्सएल' श्रृंखला के विमान को उतारा गया। बहरीन अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से उड़ान भरने के बाद विमान मंगलवार को रात 10 बजकर 43 मिनट पर कोलकाता हवाई अड्डे पर उतरा।



- बहरीन से उड़ कर चीन के तियानजिन शहर जा रहा बेलुगा विमान
- कोलकाता में ईंधन लेने व चालक दल को आराम देने को रुका है यह विमान

श्रृंखला के विमानों को उतारा गया था लेकिन मंगलवार रात पहली बार कोलकाता हवाई

का स्वागत किया जो विमान के आवश्यक कलपुर्जों को लेकर जा रहा है। यह अपनी श्रृंखला का सबसे बड़ा विमान है। यह विमान कोलकाता में चालक दल को आराम देने और ईंधन भरने के लिए रुका है क्योंकि यह पूर्वी भारत का एकमात्र हवाई अड्डा है जो इस विमान की संचालन संबंधी सुविधाओं से सुसज्जित है।' विमान में तीन पायलट और एक इंजीनियर है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

9 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet to add 10 planes by November

**OUR SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT**

New Delhi: Budget carrier SpiceJet on Tuesday said it plans to add 10 aircraft to its fleet by November.

The airline will induct seven leased jets and deploy three grounded planes, according to a statement.

The first plane is set to be inducted on October 10.

SpiceJet has already signed lease agreements with deliveries expected by November 15.

Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction, the airline said. It will operationalise its grounded planes in phases, with the first three set to re-enter service before the end of November.

This move follows SpiceJet's successful capital raise of ₹3,000 crore through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) last month. The airline will also receive an additional ₹736 crore from a prior funding round.

"This addition is crucial to meet the growing demand for air travel while strengthening

TAKE WINGS

- Budget carrier to lease 7 planes
- Three grounded planes will fly again
- 19 aircraft in operations

our operational capabilities," SpiceJet chairman and managing director Ajay Singh said.

The Gurgaon-based airline has only 19 aircraft in operations while as many as 36 planes were grounded as of October 8 according to live aircraft fleet tracking website, Planespotter.net.

Meanwhile, domestic air traffic rose 8.1 per cent to 132.3 lakh in September from a year ago and notably, 15.2 per cent higher than the pre-Covid levels of September 2019.

The airlines' capacity deployment in September 2024 was higher than September 2023 by 7.3 per cent, but lower by 1.7 per cent over August 2024.

Rating agency Icra said it "expects the Indian aviation industry to report a net loss of

₹20-30 billion in 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 each, against ₹10 billion in FY2024. Supply-chain challenges and engine failure issues have impacted the industry capacity over the last 18 months and are expected to continue affecting it this year."

Akasa comfort

Akasa Air on Tuesday said there will be no disruptions to its flight operations due to the latest advisories regarding potential risk of a jammed rudder control system in Boeing 737 planes.

The airline operates a fleet of 25 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.

On Monday, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issued an advisory to Indian airlines operating Boeing 737 planes regarding potential risk.

An Akasa Air spokesperson said the identified issue does not impact its operations.

"Akasa can confirm that there will be no disruptions to our flight schedule as a result of the latest DGCA / Boeing advisories," the spokesperson said in a statement.

The airline did not mention whether its planes are impacted.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

Bomb threat on Vistara's flight from London, proves a hoax

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A bomb threat written on a piece of paper was found in a lavatory of a London-Delhi Vistara flight on Wednesday. However, it landed safely and no suspicious item was found.

Police reported that around 8.45am, the threat was communicated to Airport Operation Control Center at IGI Airport. It was told that a note in the lavatory read, "Bomb this flight."

The flight landed safely at 11.45am, and all passengers disembarked without any problem. Following standard security protocols, a thorough inspection of the plane was conducted, and no suspicious item was found. An airport official said, "Soon after the threat was received, a bomb threat assessment committee was convened. After the flight landed, it was immediately diverted to the isolation bay for a thorough check."

A Vistara spokesperson said, "A security concern was noted by our staff operating Vistara flight UK018, en route from London to Delhi, on Wednesday. In line with the protocol, the relevant authorities were immediately informed... We fully cooperated with the relevant authorities in completing the necessary security checks. At Vistara, the safety of our customers, crew and aircraft is paramount."

In June, a bomb threat email was received at IGI Airport on a Monday morning. The email claimed that a bomb was planted on a Dubai-bound flight that was about to take off. The flight was halted and security checks were conducted. The email turned out to be a hoax. On May 28, a paper reading "bomb blast at 5:30" found in an aircraft's lavatory created chaos at the airport, leading to the evacuation of all 176 passengers through emergency exits.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

10 OCTOBER 2024

Emergency landing in NY as pilot dies aboard a Turkish Airlines flight

A Turkish Airlines jetliner headed from Seattle to Istanbul made an emergency landing at New York's John F Kennedy International Airport on Wednesday after the captain died on board, an airline official said. Pilot İlcehin Pehlivan, 59, lost consciousness after flight took off from Seattle Tuesday. A Turkish Airlines spokesperson said medical intervention failed to revive the captain, and the co-pilot made an emergency landing, but the captain died before landing. ASSOCIATED PRESS



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

9 OCTOBER 2024

Grounded planes to fly again within 2 yrs: SpiceJet to DGCA

Saurabh Sinha
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New Delhi: Thanks to its recent Rs 3,000-crore funding, SpiceJet has informed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) it plans to have all its grounded planes back in the air within 18-24 months. Ajay Singh's airline has earmarked Rs 400 crore for spares, maintenance and engineering for this task. And in the interim, it will also wet-lease some planes (hire planes with operating crew) to boost capacity, this is what SpiceJet engineering team informed the DGCA last

Friday when the airline was called for their post-funding plans regarding operational fleet size. The move comes at a time when the regulator is finalising the winter schedule of flights that will be effective from this month end. "The airline informed seven grounded aircraft will be flying again by the calendar year-end," said sources.

As on June 30, 2024, 36 of SpiceJet's 64 planes were grounded. And of the 28 airworthy planes, barely a few were flying. Clearly the airline wants to change that quickly. After securing the funding recently,

SpiceJet CMD Ajay Singh had told **TOI** that the airline aims to have a fleet of 100 aircraft by the end of 2026.

On Tuesday, the airline announced it will have 10 more planes flying by Nov-end by leasing seven and ungrounding three. Agreements for these seven leased aircraft have been signed and they should be inducted by Nov 15. "Two of these leased aircraft have already arrived in India and are scheduled for immediate induction. SpiceJet will also operationalise its grounded planes in phases, with the first three set to re-enter service before the end of Nov," the airline said in a statement.