



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण  
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## AAI OBSERVES VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK 2024



Airports Authority of India observed Vigilance Awareness week 2024 from 28 October to 3 November with the theme "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity" across all its airports and establishments. Integrity Pledge was administered by Dr. H Srinivas, Member (HR) to senior officers of the organisation in an event held on 28 October 2024 at AAI Corporate Headquarter, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi.

# सहूलियत किफायती दरों की दुकानें अनिवार्य होंगी एयरपोर्ट पर खाने-पीने की चीजें सस्ती मिलेंगी

सुजीत ठाकुर | नई दिल्ली

एयरपोर्ट पर खाने-पीने की चीजें किफायती दाम पर भी मिलेंगी। एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया (एएआई) इसके लिए हवाई अड्डों पर किफायती जोन अनिवार्य करने जा रहा है। यानी हर एयरपोर्ट पर कुछ स्थान किफायती जोन के रूप में आरक्षित होगा, जहां यात्री सस्ते में खाने-पीने का सामान खरीद सकेंगे।

नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्रालय के एक अधिकारी का कहना है, लंबे समय से यात्री व हर राज्य के जनप्रतिनिधि शिकायत करते रहे हैं कि एयरपोर्ट पर खाने-पीने का सामान इतना महंगा होता है कि आम यात्री नहीं खरीद पाते। सामान्य यात्रियों को घर से एयरपोर्ट पहुंचने और फिर यात्रा पूरी करके गंतव्य तक पहुंचने में लगभग छह से सात घंटे का औसत समय लगता है। चूंकि एयरपोर्ट और विमान दोनों ही जगह ऐसी हैं जहां यात्री चाय-पानी या भोजन कर सकता है। मगर कीमतें इतनी ज्यादा होती हैं कि लोग कुछ खाने-पीने से ज्यादा भूखा रहना ही बेहतर मानते हैं।

सूत्रों का कहना है कि मुंबई, दिल्ली, बंगलुरु और कोच्चि एयरपोर्ट पर घरेलू विमानों के डिपार्चर एरिया में ऐसी जगहों की पहचान कर ली गई है। यहां किफायती दरों पर खाने-पीने के 6-8 आउटलेट खुलेंगे। नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री राममोहन नायडू ने पिछले दो महीनों में इस समस्या के निदान पर 3 बैठकें कीं। इनमें एएआई, हवाई अड्डा संचालन करने वाली कंपनी (डायल) व एयरपोर्ट पर खाने-पीने के आउटलेट चलाने वाली कंपनियों के प्रतिनिधि शामिल हुए थे। बैठक के बाद यह तय किया गया कि जिन एयरपोर्ट का निर्माण अभी चल रहा है वहां घरेलू विमानों के संचालन वाले एरिया में एक जोन बजट ईटरीज या लाइट पे एरिया के रूप में अनिवार्य रूप से विकसित किया जाए। मौजूदा एयरपोर्ट के भी घरेलू उड़ान वाले एरिया में ऐसे जोन बनाने का निर्देश दिया गया है।

**ये फायदा... 125-200 में मिलने वाली चाय ₹50-60 में ले सकेंगे**



एएआई के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि इन आउटलेट्स पर खाने-पीने का सामान लगभग 60-70 फीसदी तक सस्ता मिलेगा। अभी एयरपोर्ट पर एक चाय लगभग 125-200 रुपये तक की मिलती है, लेकिन किफायती जोन में यह 50-60 रुपये के बीच मिल सकेगी। हां, इतना जरूर है कि महंगे रेस्तरां की तरह सर्विस और क्वांटिटी का अंतर होगा। यानी बैठने की जगह स्टैंडिंग टेबल लगी होगी। छोटे कप या गिलास में चाय दी जाएगी। फुल मील की जगह कॉम्पैक्ट मील होगा। पैकिंग की बेसिक क्वालिटी में सामान उपलब्ध होगा।

**कब शुरू होंगे... 3 एयरपोर्ट पर इसी साल दिसंबर तक और 6 महीने में हर एयरपोर्ट पर जोन खुलेंगे**

दिसंबर तक देश के तीन एयरपोर्ट पर यह सुविधा शुरू होने की उम्मीद है। कोशिश है कि अगले छह महीने के अंदर ही हर एयरपोर्ट पर इकोनॉमी जोन डेवलप कर दिए जाएं। चूंकि दिसंबर व जनवरी में कोहरे की वजह से विमानों के परिचालन में ज्यादा देरी होती है, लिहाजा यात्रा और वेटिंग समय भी बहुत बढ़ जाता है। ऐसे में इकोनॉमी जोन वाले यात्रियों को इससे बड़ी सहूलियत मिल जाएगी।

**कितनी क्षमता होगी... लगभग 200 यात्रियों की**

सूत्रों के मुताबिक, इन किफायती जोन के एरिया को लेकर अभी कोई नियम तय नहीं हुआ है। यह एयरपोर्ट के आकार और विमान व यात्रियों की संख्या के हिसाब से निर्धारित किया जाएगा। छोटे और मझोले एयरपोर्ट पर इतनी जगह बनाएंगे, जिसमें 6-8 दुकानें हों और प्रतिघंटे 160-200 यात्रियों को हैंडल करने की क्षमता हो।

**...लेकिन यहां कोई और चीजें नहीं बेची जाएंगी**

एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि इकोनॉमी जोन में सिर्फ खाने-पीने की ही सुविधा मिलेगी। इसी से संबंधित आउटलेट होंगे। वहां कपड़ों, खिलौनों, मोबाइल स्टोर या अन्य खरीदारी के आउटलेट नहीं होंगे। इसका मकसद आम यात्रियों को सस्ती दर पर खान-पान की सुविधा मुहैया कराना है, जो किसी भी यात्री की बेसिक जरूरत होती है।

## Terminal 2 of Bengaluru airport gets 4,000 sqft hydroponic green wall



### NT Correspondent

BENGALURU

Many trips to nurseries in Bengaluru as well as the field trips to Western Ghats yielded him about 153 species of native plants to grow on the 30-foot-high, 160-foot-wide (2 walls each of 80 feet) installation called 'Tiger Wings' aka 'Patrick Wall' at the Terminal 2 of the Kempegowda International Airport, said Patrick Blanc, a globally renowned botanist on Thursday.

The botanist is affiliated with the French National Centre for Scientific Research.

According to him, India, where he has been doing vertical garden projects for about 20 years now, usually offers 10 to 15 species to work with. "It's a pity that we have to choose from plants grown in tropical America, Africa and Southeast Asia. There is a need to nurture Indian species that can be grown in vertical gardens here, not many propagate them," Blanc told PTI.

In total, 'Tiger Wings' span 4,000 square feet and are home to over 15,000 plants across 153 species, added Hari Marar,

Managing Director & CEO of the BIAL, who had inaugurated the wall in the presence of Blanc on Thursday. "I am not an expert on plants, but Patrick has promised that in three months when these 15,000 plants bloom, they'll resemble a stretched out tiger on the wall," Marar told PTI.

Explaining the process of creating the wall, Blanc said he has used specialised felt layers to create the soilless hydroponic wall garden.

"Felt layers create an environment where plants thrive," said Blanc, adding that the Bengaluru airport project is his biggest one in India so far.

Incidentally, Blanc has created a green wall at the Changi airport in Singapore too. The soilless system used in the 'Tiger Wing' is different from the ones being adapted in the bell-shaped plant holders and beils (three-tiered plant holders that is a nod to traditional storage system of vegetable and fruits), both of which hang from the ceiling, green islands as well as the other walls that run around the various nooks and corners.



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TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

9 NOVEMBER 2024

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### PM: Airport to come up alongside Vadhavan port

**Mumbai:** An airport will come up alongside Vadhavan port. At the election rally in Dhule, PM Modi declared that once the poll code of conduct is lifted and Mahayuti govt is sworn in, he would sit with state leaders and see how it could be done. "The country's biggest port is coming up in Maharashtra. The big infra projects are creating new opportunities. When the issue was raised by Devendra Fadnavis at Vadhvan port bhoomi function, saying you are doing so much, investing thousands of crores, make an airport too. That day I kept quiet, but as soon as code of conduct ends and the Mahayuti govt swearing in is completed, I will sit with the Maharashtra govt and see how Devendraj's wish is fulfilled." In a post on X, Fadnavis said, "At the bhoomipujan for the Vadhvan port... I made a request for an airport. Today, PM Narendra Modi in Dhule gave a very clear assurance that it will be fulfilled. This new airport at Palghar will give a boost to Mumbai, MMR, and Maharashtra's economy." he said. - Clara Lewis

# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## Air India Express targets a 50% jump in passenger traffic by FY25 end

**SPREADING WINGS.** Chief Executive Alok Singh says focus will be on growing presence in Tier-II/III markets

**Rohit Vaid**  
New Delhi

The Tata Group-promoted low-cost carrier Air India Express aims to grow passenger traffic by over 50 per cent in FY25 over the previous fiscal year on the back of new routes, a larger fleet and operations to new destinations.

Accordingly, the airline hopes to ferry 2.4 million passengers per month by the end of FY25 from 1.6 million passengers as at the end of FY24. Air India Express' Chief Executive Alok Singh said that the airline will focus on growing its presence in Tier-II and III markets.

"The majority of traffic in India is on the metro to non-metro routes," Singh said at the airline's headquarters located in the National Capital Region.

To achieve this growth, the airline plans to operate over 110 air-



**FLYING HIGH.** The airline hopes to ferry 2.4 million passengers per month by the end of FY25 from 1.6 million passengers as at the end of FY24.

craft by the end of the financial year. As of now, Air India Express' fleet size stands at 90.

The airline will receive brand new 737s from Boeing and some old Airbus A320s from its parent, Air India.

capacity on the domestic routes from the international segment. It will be 55 per cent capacity on the domestic segment versus 45 per cent on the international segment," Singh said.

### TO ADD 10 STATIONS

The airline is expected to add another 10 stations by the end of FY25.

Air India Express is scouting destinations in South-East Asia specifically to Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia.

According to Air India Express's Chief Commercial Officer, Ankur Garg, the airline will look at destinations like Hong Kong and CIS countries in the future.

Currently, Air India Express, operates over 400 daily flights, connecting 35 domestic and 14 international airports, with a fleet of 90 aircraft comprising 61 Boeing 737s and 29 Airbus A320s.

### INCREASING FREQUENCIES

Besides, Air India Express plans to increase flight frequencies to Tier-II and III cities, aiming to reach 55 stations in FY25 from 45 in FY24. It currently operates from/to 47 stations. "We will have slightly more



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## SpiceJet plans to relaunch sea plane service next year

### Our Bureau

Mumbai

SpiceJet will reintroduce sea plane operations in 2025, Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh announced after a demonstration flight in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday. The airline had in October 2020 introduced a sea plane service linking Sabaramati river front in Ahmedabad with the Statue of Unity in Kevadia. However, the operations were suspended within a few months due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The airline has now partnered in sea plane trials across multiple locations, providing engineering, technical and logistical support to aircraft manufacturer De Havilland. SpiceJet has rights to operate sea plane service on 20 routes including Lakshadweep, Guwahati, Hyderabad and Shillong and will launch services once the infrastructure is ready, it said.



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DAINIK BHASKAR

NEW DELHI

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# जेट: देनदारों को कर्ज की 6% राशि ही, निवेशक खाली हाथ

एम. रियाज हाशमी | नई दिल्ली

15,723 करोड़ कर्ज, 1000 करोड़ गंवाए

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने नरेश गोयल द्वारा स्थापित जेट एयरवेज के लिक्विडेशन का फैसला कर दिया है। कंपनी की संपत्तियां बेचकर देनदारों और निवेशकों का पैसा लौटाया जाएगा। हालांकि यह इतना आसान नहीं है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के दस्तावेजों में जेट की सभी संपत्तियों की कुल बुक वैल्यू करीब 1,000 करोड़ रुपए है, जो कर्जदाताओं के बकाए का 13% और कुल स्वीकृत दावों का 6.4% ही है। हालांकि संपत्ति नीलामी से बुक वैल्यू की आधी कीमत ही वसूल हो पाएगी, जिससे कुल कर्ज का 6.5% ही अदा किया जा सकता है। यानी निवेशकों को कुछ भी नहीं और कर्जदाताओं को बकाया 15,723 करोड़ में से करीब 93.5% घाटा उठाना पड़ेगा। यानी उन्हें 1000 करोड़ से भी कम राशि मिल पाएगी।

'भास्कर' ने दिवालिया प्रक्रिया से जुड़े दस्तावेजों का विश्लेषण किया। इनमें जेट की एनसीए (नॉन कोर एसेट) की कुल बुक वैल्यू 1,066.75 करोड़ रु. आंकी गई है। इसमें 6 लग्जरी कारें भी हैं। एम्सटर्डम की संपत्तियों में एक बोइंग 777-35, पाटर्स, कैटरिंग सामग्री, व्यापारिक देनदारियां और एयरलाइन की जमीन है। सबसे बड़ी एनसीए संपत्ति मुंबई में 15,000 वर्ग मीटर का वाणिज्यिक भवन है। जून 2019 में इसका मूल्य 683 करोड़ रु. था, जबकि बोइंग 777-35 की कीमत 376.4 करोड़ रु. है। इसके अलावा सभी कोर एसेट्स की बुक वैल्यू लगभग 1,000 करोड़ रुपए है।

जेट पर कर्जदाताओं का करीब 7,807 करोड़ रुपए बकाया था, जबकि एनसीएलटी ने 2019 में एयरलाइन को ग्राउंड करते समय 15,723 करोड़ के दावे स्वीकार किए थे। जेकेसी ने 350 करोड़ की प्रारंभिक किस्त दी थी, लेकिन उसमें से 200 करोड़ रुपए जब्त किए जाएंगे। जेकेसी के मुताबिक, डील पर 700 करोड़ खर्च हो चुके हैं। उन्होंने एयरलाइन को उबारने की हरसंभव कोशिश की, लेकिन कर्जदाता प्रक्रिया उलझाते रहे।

### समय के साथ बढ़ा कर्ज

कर्जदाता समूह ने एनसीएलटी के आदेश को चुनौती दी थी। कहा कि जेकेसी समाधान योजना लागू करने में विफल रहा है। उनके कुल दावे 7,807 करोड़ के थे, जबकि जेकेसी ने 4,783 करोड़ की पेशकश की थी, जो 5 साल में किस्तों में चुकाने थे। पहली 350 करोड़ की किस्त मार्च 22 तक चुकानी थी, जो नहीं चुकाई। हवाई अड्डा और पार्किंग शुल्क के 475 करोड़ 180 दिन में चुकाने थे, जो बढ़कर 1,000 करोड़ रुपए हो गए हैं।

### तीन शहरों में 11 विमान



एनसीए के अलावा जेट एयरवेज के मुंबई, दिल्ली और हैदराबाद के हवाई अड्डों पर 11 विमान खड़े हैं। इनमें मुंबई में तीन बोइंग 777, दो एयरबस ए 330 और एक बोइंग 737, दिल्ली में दो बोइंग 777, एक बोइंग 737 और हैदराबाद में एक बोइंग 737, एक एयरबस ए 330 शामिल हैं।

### आगे क्या... फिर दावा पेश करना होगा

लंबे समय तक चलने वाली लिक्विडेशन प्रक्रिया में एनसीएलटी लिक्विडेटर नियुक्त करेगी। वह संपत्तियों की पहचान और मूल्यांकन करेगी। कर्जदाताओं से फिर से दावे पेश करने को कहा जाएगा। इसके बाद संपत्तियों के मूल्यांकन के आधार पर दावों का समायोजन कर नई सूची बनेगी। दिवाला और दिवालियापन संहिता (आईबीसी) के अनुसार, पूर्व कर्मचारियों और सुरक्षित वित्तीय कर्जदाताओं को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी, उसके बाद अन्य कर्जदाताओं का नंबर आएगा। डीजीसीए ने कतर दिए थे पंख : अप्रैल 2019 से बंद जेट का मालिकाना हक हासिल करने में नाकाम जेकेसी कामयाब भी होता तो सुरक्षा मंजूरी नहीं मिल सकती थी। दरअसल, डीजीसीए ने तीन साल पहले एनसीएलटी में शपथ पत्र देकर साफ कर दिया था कि समाधान योजना को मंजूरी मिलती है तो भी इसे तब तक पूरा नहीं माना जाएगा, जब तक कि सरकार से सुरक्षा मंजूरी न मिल जाए, जो आसान नहीं था।

करोड़ रुपए है।

जब तक कि सरकार से सुरक्षा मंजूरी न मिल जाए, जो आसान नहीं था।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण  
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

JAIPUR

9 NOVEMBER 2024

## हैदराबाद-दिल्ली फ्लाइट रद्द, 250 यात्री परेशान

जयपुर | एयरपोर्ट से शुक्रवार को एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की फ्लाइट्स का संचालन गड़बड़ा गया। एयरलाइंस की फ्लाइट संख्या आईएक्स-2871/72 हैदराबाद से सुबह 11:40 बजे जयपुर आती है और दोपहर 12:10 बजे वापस जाती है। दिल्ली की फ्लाइट आईएक्स-1198/99 भी रद्द रही। फ्लाइट दिल्ली से सुबह 11:50 बजे जयपुर आती है और वापसी 12:20 बजे होती है। शुक्रवार को दोनों फ्लाइट के रद्द होने से करीब 250 यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा।

## वियतजेट ने पेश की भारतीय यात्रियों के लिए विशेष प्रोत्साहन योजनाएं

नई दिल्ली, 9 नवम्बर (एजेंसियां)। वियतनाम के नए जमाने की एयरलाइन वियतजेट ने भारतीय यात्रियों के लिए नवम्बर माह में दो विशेष प्रोत्साहन योजनाएं पेश की हैं जिसमें 11



नम्बर को बुकिंग पर भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनोमी क्लास टिकट 5555 रुपये में देने की पेशकश भी है।

एयरलाइन की एक विज्ञप्ति में बताया गया है कि उसकी वेबसाइट या मोबाइल ऐप पर 11 नवम्बर को रात 12:00 बजे से रात 11:59

बजे तक भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनोमी श्रेणी का टिकट 5555 रुपये (करों और शुल्कों समेत) से शुरू होगा। यात्री इस प्रोत्साहन योजना का प्रोमो कोड वीजे11 आगामी एक जनवरी से 22 मई, 2025 के बीच की उड़ानों के लिए इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं।

विज्ञप्ति में बताया गया है कि 13 से 19 नवम्बर तक एयरलाइन अपने घरेलू एवं अंतरराष्ट्रीय सारे मार्गों (रूट्स) पर बिजनेस और स्कायबॉस टिकटों पर 20 प्रतिशत तक छूट (करों और शुल्कों को छोड़कर) दे रही है। यह छूट एक मार्च से 22 मई, 2025 तक की यात्रा के लिए होगी और यात्री चेकआउट पर प्रोमो कोड लीडरनोव का इस्तेमाल कर इसका लाभ ले सकते हैं।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

9 NOVEMBER 2024

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## **Air India rejigs senior management**

**MUMBAI, PTI:** Air India Group on Friday announced a rejig at the senior management level ahead of the merger of Vistara with Air India.

As part of this exercise, Vistara chief executive officer Vinod Kanan, who has also been holding the role of Chief Integration Officer for the merger of the two entities, will continue in the latter role post-merger.



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AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DAINIK NAVJYOTI

JAIPUR

9 NOVEMBER 2024

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## फ्लाइट रद्द, यात्री परेशान

नवज्योति, जयपुर। जयपुर से हैदराबाद व दिल्ली जाने वाली फ्लाइट शुक्रवार को रद्द रही। इसके चलते यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की फ्लाइट जयपुर से

दोपहर 12.10 बजे हैदराबाद जाती है। यह फ्लाइट शुक्रवार को संचालन कारणों के चलते रद्द रही। इसी प्रकार जयपुर से दोपहर 12.20 बजे दिल्ली जाने वाली फ्लाइट भी शुक्रवार को रद्द रही।

CONSOLIDATION OF GROUP'S AIRLINES BUSINESS

# Tatas Push Full Throttle for Air India Express

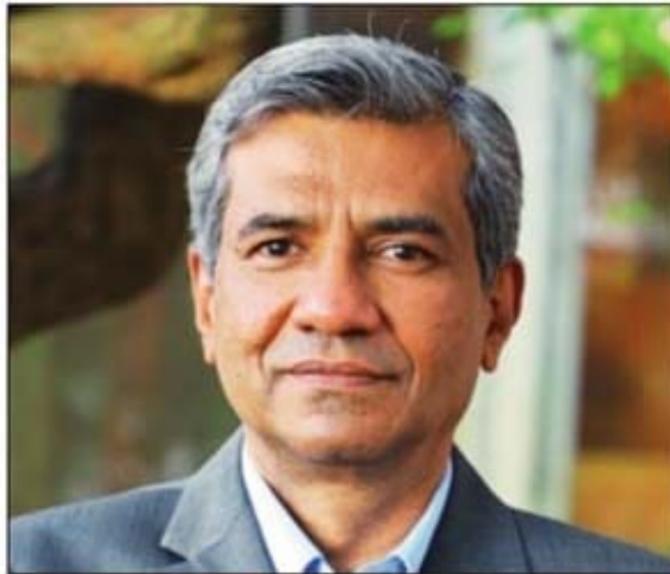
Budget carrier's fleet expected to touch 110 from 90 by fiscal end, says MD Alok Singh

Arindam Majumder

**New Delhi:** The Tata Group is pushing the throttle of its low-cost airline, Air India Express. It has a fleet of around 90 aircraft and the count is expected to cross 110 by the end of this fiscal year, enabling it to expand on domestic and money-spinning short-haul international routes, Air India Express managing director Alok Singh said.

"At 65%, the largest chunk of growth in the domestic India market is actually on metro to non-metro routes and short-haul international networks. So, our focus will be primarily from tier-2, tier-3 cities to points in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and, going forward, South Asia and perhaps the Far East in a couple of years," Singh said in a media briefing Saturday.

The airline is intentionally building its network focusing on connecting tier-2 and -3 cities with in-



## SMOOTH FLOW

We will make sure that between Air India Express and Air India network there is a seamless flow of passengers

### ALOKE SINGH

Managing Director, Air India Express

ternational destinations as Air India will be the carrier flying between major metros.

"We will make sure that between the Air India Express network and the Air India network there is a seamless flow of passengers. We can provide feeds to the Air India net-

work over the hubs of Delhi, Bengaluru and Mumbai, which are the three major hubs for Air India," Singh said.

Air India Express has been a big beneficiary of the frosty US-China relationships due to which US aerospace major Boeing has yet to resume deliveries of the 737 Max aircraft to China. Some 50 of those already built planes designated for Chinese airlines are being taken up by Air India Express, leading to a faster-than-normal delivery timeline. Over the past 10 months, it added 26 new Boeing 737 Max aircraft to its fleet.

The airline will also induct seven Airbus A320 Neo from Air India. In the next phase, after the amalgamation of Vistara into Air India, 10 of Vistara's all-economy A320 Neo aircraft will be transferred to the low-cost airline.

"We are planning to expand equally on domestic and international but going forward maybe we will deploy a little more domestic or rather the allocation of capacity will be skewed towards domestic," Singh said.

Ankur Garg, chief commercial officer at the airline, said it will soon be adding Bangkok and Phuket and cities in Vietnam to its international network.

# Turkish Airlines Aims for Bigger Pie of Indian Skies

In talks with govt to double number of direct flights between 2 countries

**Vinod Mahanta**

**Mumbai:** Turkish Airlines is collaborating with the Indian government to double the number of direct flights between the two countries, a senior official told **ET**. The flag carrier currently operates 14 direct flights to India every week.

Ahmet Olmutur, chief commercial officer of Turkish Airlines, said increasing connectivity with India aligns with the airline's goal of providing comprehensive travel options for potential visitors.

Turkey's popularity as a holiday destination has grown among Indian travellers, especially after the Covid-19 pandemic. In the first half of 2024, the country received 165,000 Indian visitors, including travellers from tier 2 and 3 cities, a 33.2% increase from a year ago.

Among the tourist hotspots in Istanbul are Hagia Sophia, Topkapi Palace and Grand Bazaar. Some visitors seek to explore Cappadocia's unique rock formations, Pamukkale's travertine terraces and thermal springs, the resort town of Bodrum, and Antalya's beaches and ancient ruins.

"We are strategically planning to expand our routes to major Indian cities, tapping into the rising demand for international travel there," said Olmutur. "India has emerged as a pivotal market for Turkish tourism, and we anticipate this trend to conti-



**A view of the Hagia Sophia**

GETTY IMAGES

nue growing annually."

Turkey is also emerging as a preferred location for HNI weddings in India.

Ralph Radtke, general manager and regional vice president of Kempinski Hotels, said, "I consider myself the godfather of Indian weddings in Turkey. It all began when steel tycoon Pramod Mittal's daughter married at Çıraan Palace Kempinski in 2011. Today, approximately 20% of the 70-80 weddings the hotel hosts each year are for prominent Indian families..."

To tap the increase in outbound travel from India, nations such as Turkey, Thailand and Azerbaijan have started wooing holidayers, promising them a unique experience — from wellness retreats to adventure trips.

Last year, about 28.2 million people flew out of India, collectively spending about \$28 billion on foreign trips, according to a FICCI-Nangia knowledge paper titled 'Navigating Horizons: The Rise and Future of Indian Outbound Tourism'.

According to officials, Turkey's Ministry of Culture and Tourism aims to push up the Indian arrivals figure next year to 350,000.

Turkish officials are optimistic about the growth potential of the India-Turkey tourism corridor and are trying to forge collaborations with India's travel ecosystem, particularly in areas like tourism marketing, agent partnerships and cultural exchange programmes.

*(The correspondent was in Istanbul at the invitation of Turkish Airlines)*

## AI Express plans more international flights

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, November 9

**EXPANDING ITS NETWORK** and tapping group synergies, Air India Express will focus on connecting smaller cities and towns with metros as well as fly to new overseas destinations, according to senior officials.

The airline, which recently completed the merger of AIX Connect with itself, has a fleet of around 90 aircraft and the count is expected to cross 110 by the end of this fiscal.

It also aims to fly to a total of 55 destinations by the end of March 2025 and has also rationalised its network as part of Air India Group strategy. Apart from adding domestic routes, the Tata Group-owned airline will start flights to more foreign destinations, including Bangkok and Phuket in Thailand, the officials said.

Air India Express managing director Alok Singh said the airline will focus on Tier 2 and 3 cities and towns as they are the growth engines, and the largest chunk of the market is

### SPREADING WINGS

■ AI Express has a fleet of around 90 aircraft and it is likely to cross 110 by end of this fiscal

■ The Tata Group-owned airline aims to fly to a total of 55 destinations by the end of March 2025



metro to non-metro.

"On the regional short haul international network, it will be primarily from Tier 2, 3 cities to points in the Gulf, Middle East, South East Asia and going forward, South Asia. Perhaps, Far East in a couple of years," Singh said at a select media interaction on Friday.

He also stressed that the airline's network strategy is also deeply woven into the group network strategy. As part of consolidating its airline business, Tata Group has merged AIX Connect with Air India Express and the integration of Vistara with Air India is scheduled to be completed next week.

Air India Express chief

commercial officer (CCO) Ankur Garg said that Bangkok and Phuket are being looked at to start services. To Bangkok, the flights are likely from Tier 2 cities and to Phuket, the service could be from a metro, Garg said.

Among other destinations, the airline might also explore the possibility of flying to Malaysia, Hong Kong and CIS countries in the future.

"We don't want to spread too thin. We want to focus on Tier 2, 3 markets from the metros. We want to provide connectivity between the full service, long haul, wide body side of the business and the domestic Tier 2, 3 cities," Singh said.



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FINANCIAL EXPRESS

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## Need ways to further streamline air traffic, says secy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, November 9

**EMPHASISING THE NEED** for ways to further streamline air traffic movements in the Indian airspace, Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam on Saturday suggested that air traffic controllers should look at the use of new technologies such as generative artificial intelligence.

He was speaking at the 40th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA), hosted by the Air Traffic Controllers' Guild (India), in the national capital.

The three-day meeting, with the theme 'Safety in Future Air Traffic Management', began on Saturday.

The participants will discuss cutting-edge technologies, innovative strategies, and sustainable practices that will shape the safety in future air traffic management, according to the meeting's website.

Vualnam said airspace is getting crowded. "Airspace is getting more and more users".

While mentioning about new technologies such as Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI), he emphasised that "instead of ignoring and closing our eyes, we should collaborate".

He also suggested that ways should be looked on how to streamline air traffic management. Joint Director General at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Maneesh Kumar said that growth with safety is being ensured and also stressed on the importance of human resources.

India is one of the world's fastest growing civil aviation markets and airlines have placed huge orders for aircraft as they expand their network to meet the rising demand.

# Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

9 NOVEMBER 2024

## Air India rejigs sr management ahead of Vistara merger

**PTI**

**MUMBAI**

Air India Group on Friday announced a rejig at the senior management level ahead of the merger of Vistara with Air India.

As part of this exercise, Vistara chief executive officer Vinod Kanan, who has also been holding the role of Chief Integration Officer for the merger of the two entities, will continue in the latter role post-merger.

Besides, he will be a member of the management committee and report directly



to Air India CEO Campbell Wilson, a statement said.

Full-service carrier Vistara, which is a 51:49 per cent joint venture between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines, is all set to merge with Air India on November 12.

It also said that Deepak Rajawat, Chief Commercial Officer of Vistara will take up the position of Chief Financial Officer at the low-cost arm Air

India Express, reporting to its chief executive officer Alok Singh and also support Air India Group CFO Sanjay Sharma in strategic initiatives and projects.

Consequently, Vikas Agarwal, the current CFO of Air India Express, will move to a new role in Air India, it said.

Senior vice president for flight operations at Vistara Hamish Maxwell has assumed an advisory role to Air India Express CEO Alok Singh while Pushpinder Singh, Chief Operations Officer of Air India Express, returns to flying, as per the statement.



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HINDUSTAN

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## आंध्र प्रदेश में डेमो सीप्लेन उड़ान शुरू

अमरावती, एजेेंसी। आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री एन चंद्रबाबू नायडू ने शनिवार को विजयवाड़ा के प्रकाशम वैराज से नंद्याल जिले के श्रीशैलम तक डेमो सीप्लेन उड़ान का शुभारंभ किया। एक घंटे के अंदर वह श्रीशैलम पहुंच गए।

विमान से उतरने के बाद मुख्यमंत्री का अफसरों ने स्वागत किया। उनके साथ केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के राम मोहन नायडू भी थे। बाद में, सीएम रोपवे से पहाड़ी की चोटी तक पहुंचे और बस से भ्रामराम्बा मल्लिकार्जुन स्वामी वरला देवस्थानम (मंदिर) के दर्शन के लिए पहुंचे। मुख्यमंत्री ने विजयवाड़ा में कृष्णा नदी के पुन्नमी घाट पर डेमो उड़ान के शुभारंभ किया।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## Air India Express to focus on metro to non-metro flights

**Jagriti Chandra**

NEW DELHI

Air India Express will focus on growing flight connectivity from metro to tier-2 and tier-3 cities as part of its ongoing route rationalisation with the group's full-service airline, Air India.

"The largest chunk of domestic India market is metro to non-metro at 65%. This is also the fastest growing segment. While we will be present on some metro-to-metro routes, our primary focus is connectivity to tier-2 and tier-3 cities," said Alok Singh, MD, Air India Express.

The airline concluded its merger with erstwhile AirAsia India on October 1, 2024 until when the priori-

ty was to integrate the entirely domestic network of the latter with the feed of Air India Express that operated only on international routes primarily focusing on connecting Kerala with Gulf and Middle East. The airline has also added 35 planes over the past year to grow its capacity where it had a "weak" presence, such as Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata.

In line with its plans for non-metro routes, the airline recently announced two new destinations – Jammu and Shri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair) – where flights will be offered from December 1. Agartala in Tripura was also a recent addition to the airline's domestic network.

The regional short-haul international market will also build connectivity between tier-2 and tier-3 cities to points in the Gulf region, West Asia, South East Asia and going forward South Asia, South East Asia, Far East and Common Wealth of Independent States (CIS) nations, Mr. Singh added.

The metro to non-metro network strategy for Air India Express complements Air India's where the focus is to connect trunk routes such as Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru, some key short-haul international destinations such as Dubai and Singapore with dense traffic and long-haul and ultra-long haul destinations in Europe, U.S., Canada, Japan and Australia.

# Air Express fleet to reach 110 after AIX merger

**Neha LM Tripathi**

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Air India Express plans to expand its fleet to 110 aircraft by the end of this fiscal year, adding 20 new planes following its merger with AIX Connect, senior airline officials said.

The carrier is optimising its network as part of the Air India group with a strategy to connect passengers from smaller cities and towns with metro cities, particularly focusing on international routes.

“We have rationalised the network between the two carriers to focus more on the tier two, tier three-Metro to non-



**An Air India Express currently operates 525 daily flights.** PTI

Metro connectivity, and also smaller towns to the Gulf and Middle East,” Alok Singh, managing director of Air India Express, told media on Friday.

The airline has begun integrating its network with Air

India to provide seamless connections. “A passenger can buy an Air India ticket, which will have, for instance, London-Delhi, and then Delhi-Ranchi on Air India Express, but they will get one document, one ticket within Air India,” Singh explained.

Air India Express, which currently operates 525 daily flights and served 2.4 million passengers in FY 2025 across 55 stations till now, is expanding its international footprint. “On our regional international network, we will primarily connect Tier 2 and tier 3 cities to destinations in the Gulf, Middle East, Southeast Asia, and eventually South Asia, with plans to

expand to the Far East in the coming years,” Singh said.

The airline’s Chief Commercial Officer Ankur Garg said they are planning to launch services to Bangkok from tier-2 cities in India and Phuket from metro cities. However, Singh emphasized a focused approach: “We aim to remain focused and not spread ourselves too thin.”

The integration has already shown positive results. “When we started the integration exercise, we made small tweaks to the network...we tried to provide domestic international connectivity and saw a little bump up in the carriage,” Singh said.

# Demo flight of A.P.'s first-ever seaplane service today

**Sambasiva Rao M.**

AMARAVATI

The demonstration flight of Andhra Pradesh's first seaplane service is all set to take off from Punnami Ghat, near the Prakasam Barrage in Vijayawada, and land at a jetty in Srisailam in Nandyal district on Saturday.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Union Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu will make a round trip on the flight. The centrepiece of the event will be the De Havilland Twin Otter Series 400 seaplane, which is known for its durability and versatility.

The aircraft is engineered for both water and conventional runways, according to a statement from the Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Cor-



**Get, set, fly:** The seaplane arrives at the Krishna river near Punnami ghat a day ahead of the demo launch. K.V.S. GIRI

poration Limited (APADCL). The initiative, led by the APADCL in partnership with the Government of India's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), aims at establishing Andhra Pradesh as a leader in water-based aviation.

Under the RCS-UDAN initiative, the Union government is proposing development of water aerodromes

to support seaplane services. Launched in 2017, the initiative also aims at boosting regional air connectivity, with seaplanes included as an integral part of the plan.

## Scenic locations

"The Government of Andhra Pradesh wants to cover picturesque destinations such as Prakasam Barrage,

Araku Valley, Lambasingi, Rushikonda, Kakinada, Konaseema, Srisailam, Gandikota, and Tirupati. The aim is to attract tourists and provide efficient travel options to these scenic locations," B.C. Janardhan Reddy, Minister for Infrastructure & Investments, told *The Hindu* on Friday. "The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been negotiating with Telangana for operating seaplanes to various destinations, including the Hyderabad-Srisailam route," he added.

"On completion of the pilot project, the government will be able to know the expenditure incurred for operating the seaplane and, thereby, fix the charges," he said.

Introduction of the seaplane service aligned with Andhra Pradesh's commitment to creating a robust

aviation ecosystem, he added. "Seaplanes open up new avenues for connecting remote and tourism-centric regions of Andhra Pradesh, offering travelers an unmatched experience, while generating local economic opportunities," the Minister said.

Water aerodromes, the designated areas for seaplane operations, present a cost-effective alternative to airports, requiring less investment and providing quicker development timelines, he said.

The APADCL has planned initial seaplane infrastructure at Prakasam Barrage, with additional locations identified to expand services across the State. These facilities, managed under a collaborative framework with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), are expected to be developed in phases.

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## IN BRIEF



### Air India flight bound for Delhi delayed by 11 hours

A New Delhi-bound Air India flight was delayed by nearly 11 hours at the Chennai airport on Friday. The flight, with 164 passengers, was to depart around 9 a.m. but encountered a technical glitch. The passengers were made to wait in the terminal, sources said. Though it was expected that the flight would take off soon, the departure time kept getting pushed back. Subsequently, most of the waiting passengers were accommodated in other flights. Eleven passengers waited, and the flight finally departed around 8 p.m. "We provided refreshments and food to the passengers. We understand that it caused a lot of inconvenience, but we tried our best to sort out the issue at the soonest," an airline source said.



## Air India flight bound for Delhi delayed by 11 hours

A New Delhi-bound Air India flight was delayed by nearly 11 hours at the Chennai airport on Friday. The flight, with 164 passengers, was to depart around 9 a.m. but encountered a technical glitch. The passengers were made to wait in the terminal, sources said. Though it was expected that the flight would take off soon, the departure time kept getting pushed back. Subsequently, most of the waiting passengers were accommodated in other flights. Eleven passengers waited, and the flight finally departed around 8 p.m. "We provided refreshments and food to the passengers. We understand that it caused a lot of inconvenience, but we tried our best to sort out the issue at the soonest," an airline source said.

# Corporate Communications Directorate

INDIAN EXPRESS

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## AI, Air India Express building network at group level; LCC to connect tier 2, 3 airports with hubs

Tata Group's full-service carrier Air India to focus on hub-to-hub routes

**SUKALP SHARMA**

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 9

TATA GROUP airlines have started rationalising their networks under a broad strategy that would progressively see the full-service carrier (FSC)—Air India—operating on major hub-to-hub routes, while the low-cost carrier (LCC)—Air India Express—operating from tier two and three cities to hub airports, according to Air India Express managing director Alok Singh. Hub airports refer to large airports, often in major cities, that handle high aircraft and passenger volumes.

For instance, the Delhi-Dubai route, which is a hub-to-hub route, is being operated by Air India, while Air India Express is not on it. On the other hand, Air India Express is operating the Goa-Dubai route, which Air India is not operating anymore. Similarly, Air India Express and not Air India is operating the Delhi-Sharjah route, Singh said.

The examples in the domestic market include the Delhi-Ranchi route, which is being operated by Air India Express, but not Air India, and the Delhi-Mumbai route, which is being operated by the latter, and not the former.

The strategy, however, is "not cast in stone" and there will be routes on which both Air India and



file

Air India Express will have presence as they might have enough demand across customer segments to warrant deployment of a full-service as well as a low-cost product.

"Our prime focus will be on the metro to non-metro and on the regional short-haul international network. Again, it will be primarily from tier two, tier three cities to points in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, etc," Singh said. He termed tier two and three cities as the growth engines in India's aviation market.

"The largest chunk of the domestic India market is actually metro to non-metro routes...I think it is about 65-odd per cent, and that is the segment that is growing the fastest," Singh said.

The strategy is part of building a consolidated network at the Air India group level based on demand and route profiles. The

broad understanding is that the Air India group is looking to deploy the full-service product on hub-to-hub and business routes, while the budget product is being seen as the more suitable option to connect relatively smaller airports with the hub airports. Air India Express's focus to connect tier two and three airports with hub airports will also help in directing passenger flows to its parent airline's long-haul services from major Indian airports.

Similar strategies have been adopted by large airline groups that have both FSC and LCC products in their stable. For instance, on its Singapore-India network, the Singapore Airlines group has deployed the FSC product mainly on flights operating between major Indian metropolitan cities and Singapore, while Scoot mostly connects tier two and three airports in India with Singapore.

Air India Express, which was recently enlarged after its merger with another Tata group airline—AIX Connect (formerly AirAsia India)—plans to expand its network in line with this network development philosophy.

Air India Express is looking to expand its international network beyond its traditionally strong India-Gulf routes. The airline is expected to soon launch flights to Thailand's Bangkok and Phuket, connecting two Indian cities to Bangkok and one Indian city to Phuket. The Indian cities for these routes are yet to be finalised.

Air India Express is also considering launching flights between India and Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bangladesh in the South Asia region. In Southeast Asia, other markets that the airline is considering apart from Thailand are Malaysia, Indonesia, and Cambodia. Even Hong Kong may be considered in the future. Top company executives said that the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries—like Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Georgia, would also be on its radar in the future. Notably, India's largest airline IndiGo has seen robust traffic between India and the CIS countries since it launched flights on those routes over the past couple of years.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

## Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

# एअर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस ने अधिक अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों की बनाई योजना

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो  
नई दिल्ली, 9 नवंबर।

हाल ही में एआई एक्स के साथ विलय के बाद एअर इंडिया (एआइ) एक्सप्रेस जल्द ही छोटे शहरों को महानगरों से जोड़ने के साथ साथ विदेशी गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ान भरने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करेगी। कंपनी के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने यह जानकारी दी। एआइ एक्सप्रेस ने कहा कि नेटवर्क विस्तार और समूह के साथ तालमेल से उसे बढ़त मिलेगी।

एअर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस के पास करीब 90 विमानों का बेड़ा है, जो चालू वित्त वर्ष के अंत तक 110 के आंकड़े को पार कर सकती है। कंपनी का लक्ष्य मार्च, 2025 के अंत तक कुल 55 गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ान भरना है। एअर इंडिया

समूह की रणनीति के तहत अपने नेटवर्क को युक्तिसंगत भी बनाया है। अधिकारियों ने कहा कि घरेलू मार्गों को जोड़ने सहित टाटा समूह के स्वामित्व वाली एयरलाइन थाईलैंड के बैंकाक और फुकेट जैसे और गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ानें शुरू करेगी। एअर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस के प्रबंध निदेशक आलोक सिंह ने कहा कि एयरलाइन जल्द ही दूसरी और तीसरी श्रेणी के शहरों और कस्बों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि बाजार का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा महानगरों और छोटे शहरों में है। उन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी मुख्य रूप से दूसरी और तीसरी श्रेणी के शहरों से खाड़ी, पश्चिम-एशिया, दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया और फिर दक्षिण-एशिया से जोड़ेगी। इस बात पर भी जोर दिया कि एयरलाइन की नेटवर्क रणनीति समूह की नेटवर्क रणनीति के साथ गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है।

# वियतजेट की भारतीय यात्रियों के लिए विशेष प्रोत्साहन योजनाएं

## भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनमी श्रेणी का टिकट 5555 रुपये से शुरू होगा

नयी दिल्ली, एजेंसी। वियतनाम के नये जमाने की एयरलाइन वियतजेट ने भारतीय यात्रियों के लिए नवंबर माह में दो विशेष प्रोत्साहन योजनाएं पेश की हैं जिसमें 11 नवंबर को बुकिंग पर भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनमी क्लास टिकट 5555 रुपये में देने की पेशकश भी है। एयरलाइन की एक विज्ञापित में बताया गया है कि उसकी वेबसाइट या मोबाइल ऐप पर 11 नवंबर को रात 12:00 बजे से रात 11:59 बजे तक भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनमी श्रेणी का टिकट 5555 रुपये (करों और शुल्कों समेत) से शुरू होगा। यात्री इस प्रोत्साहन योजना का प्रोमो कोड वीजे11 आगामी एक जनवरी से 22 मई, 2025 के बीच की उड़ानों के



लिए इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं। विज्ञापित में बताया गया है कि 13 से 19 नवंबर तक एयरलाइन अपने घरेलू एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सारे मार्गों (रूट्स) पर बिजनेस और स्कायबॉस टिकटों पर 20 प्रतिशत तक छूट (करों और शुल्कों को छोड़कर) दे रही है। यह छूट एक मार्च से 22 मई, 2025 तक की यात्रा के लिये होगी और यात्री चेकआउट पर प्रोमो कोड

लीडरनोव (एलईएडीईआरएनओवी) का इस्तेमाल कर इसका लाभ ले सकते हैं। इस छूट में इसमें कर एवं शुल्क शामिल नहीं हैं। यात्री इस खास पेशकश का फायदा उठाने के लिए वियतजेट की आधिकारिक वेबसाइट पर या फिर वियतजेट मोबाइल एप का इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं। वियतजेट एशिया तथा ऑस्ट्रेलिया में

- एयरलाइन की एक विज्ञापित में बताया गया है कि उसकी वेबसाइट या मोबाइल ऐप पर 11 नवंबर को रात 12:00 बजे से रात 11:59 बजे तक भारत और वियतनाम के बीच एक दिशा का इकोनमी श्रेणी का टिकट 5555 रुपये (करों और शुल्कों समेत) से शुरू होगा।
- यात्री इस प्रोत्साहन योजना का प्रोमो कोड वीजे11 आगामी एक जनवरी से 22 मई, 2025 के बीच की उड़ानों के लिए इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं।
- 13 से 19 नवंबर तक एयरलाइन अपने घरेलू एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सारे मार्गों (रूट्स) पर बिजनेस और स्कायबॉस टिकटों पर 20 प्रतिशत तक छूट (करों और शुल्कों को छोड़कर) दे रही है।

168 मार्गों पर उड़ानों का परिचालन करती है। वियतजेट ने वियतनाम और भारत के बीच सीधे कनेक्शन की पहल की है और यह बढ़ती हुई मांग को पूरा करने के लिये लगातार अपने रूट्स बढ़ा रही है। मौजूदा समय में एयरलाइन दोनों देशों के

बीच हफ्ते में 68 उड़ानें चला रही है। कंपनी ने भारत के महत्वपूर्ण शहरों, जैसे कि नई दिल्ली, मुंबई, अहमदाबाद और कोच्चि को वियतनाम के प्रमुख गंतव्यों जैसे कि हनोई, डा नांग और हो चि मिन्ह सिटी से जोड़ा है।

# Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## AI Express plans to fly to new overseas destinations

The airline has a fleet of around 90 aircraft and the count is expected to cross 110 by the end of this fiscal

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** Expanding its network and tapping group synergies, Air India Express will focus on connecting smaller cities and towns with metros as well as fly to new overseas destinations, according to senior officials.

The airline, which recently completed the merger of AIX Connect with itself, has a fleet of around 90 aircraft and the count is expected to cross 110 by the end of the current fiscal. It also aims to fly to a total of 55 destinations by the end of March 2025 and has also rationalised its network as part of Air India Group strategy.

Apart from adding domestic routes, the Tata Group-owned airline will start flights to more foreign destinations, including Bangkok and Phuket in Thailand, the officials said.

Air India Express Manag-



As part of consolidating its airline business, Tata Group has merged AIX Connect with Air India Express and the integration of Vistara with Air India is scheduled to be completed next week

ing Director Alope Singh said the airline will focus on Tier 2 and 3 cities and towns as they are the growth engines, and the largest chunk of the market is metro to non-metro.

"On the regional short haul international network, it will be

primarily from Tier 2, 3 cities to points in the Gulf, Middle East, South East Asia and going forward, South Asia. Perhaps, Far East in a couple of years," Singh said at a select media interaction on Friday. He also stressed that the airline's network strategy

is also deeply woven into the group network strategy.

As part of consolidating its airline business, Tata Group has merged AIX Connect with Air India Express and the integration of Vistara with Air India is scheduled to be completed next week. Air India Express Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) Ankur Garg said that Bangkok and Phuket are being looked at to start services. To Bangkok, the flights are likely from Tier 2 cities and to Phuket, the service could be from a metro, Garg said. Among other destinations, the airline might also explore the possibility of flying to Malaysia, Hong Kong and CIS countries in the future.

"We don't want to spread too thin. We want to focus on Tier 2, 3 markets from the metros. We want to provide connectivity between the full service, long haul, wide body side of the business and the domestic Tier 2, 3 cities," Singh said.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण  
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# Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

**'INDIAN AIRSPACE IS GETTING MORE USERS'**

## Need to look at streamlining air traffic management: Official

**NEW DELHI:** Emphasising the need for ways to further streamline air traffic movements in the Indian airspace, Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam on Saturday suggested that air traffic controllers should look at the use of new technologies such as generative artificial intelligence.

He was speaking at the 40th Asia Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA), hosted by the Air Traffic Controllers' Guild (India), in the national capital.

The three-day meeting, with the theme 'Safety in Future Air

Traffic Management', began on Saturday. The participants will discuss cutting-edge technologies, innovative strategies, and sustainable practices that will shape the safety in future air traffic management, according to the meeting's website.

The civil aviation secretary said airspace is getting crowded.

"Airspace is getting more and more users".

While mentioning about new technologies such as Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI), he emphasised that "instead of ignoring and closing our eyes, we should collaborate".

He also suggested that ways should be looked on

how to streamline air traffic management.

Joint Director General at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Maneesh Kumar said that growth with safety is being ensured and also stressed the importance of human resources in the aviation space.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

9 NOVEMBER 2024

## पाँच साल में 43 फीसदी बढ़ा हवाई किराया

मुंबई। घरेलू हवाई किराया भारत में काफी बढ़ गया है। ये हवाई किराए की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी बढ़ोतरी है। इसमें वर्ष 2019 की महामारी के पूर्व स्तर की तुलना में वर्ष 2024 की पिछली छमाही में कीमत में 43 फीसदी का इजाफा देखा गया है। वियतनाम के बाद इतनी बढ़ोतरी करने वाला भारत दूसरा देश है। वियतनाम में हवाई किराए में 63 फीसदी का इजाफा देखने को मिला है। इस समयसीमा के दौरान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई यात्रा के किराए में बढ़ोतरी करने के मामले में भारत के बाद संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (यूएई) और मलेशिया है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

SUNAY STANDARD

NEW DELHI

10 NOVEMBER 2024

## **AI Express plans more international flights; to have 110 planes by March 25**

New Delhi: Expanding its network, Air India Express will focus on connecting smaller cities and towns with metros as well as fly to new overseas destinations, as per senior officials. The airline, recently completed merger of AIX Connect with itself, has a fleet of 90 aircraft and the count is expected to cross 110 by the end of this fiscal. *ENS*

## **Will Launch seaplane ops in 2025 to most remote locations: SpiceJet**

New Delhi: SpiceJet on Saturday said it plans to launch seaplane operations in 2025 to connect India's most remote and picturesque locations. SpiceJet's Chairman and Managing Director, Ajay Singh said it has partnered in seaplane trials across multiple locations, providing engineering, technical, and logistical support to De Havilland. *ENS*