



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Illegal blgs in 2nd runway path risk to flight ops

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Chennai: The number of illegal structures along the approach path to the second runway at Chennai airport has surged to 278 from 180 last year, hampering efforts to fully utilise the runway and raising safety concerns among airlines and airport officials.

The airport authorities want to put the second runway to better use, but the increase in the number of obstacles in the approach path in the Kolapakkam area keep them worried.

While the Airports Authority of India (AAI) identified 180 structures that were built beyond the prescribed height last year and corrected about 50 structures, the number has gone up again and is now at 278. Of these, 53 are structures such as telecom towers and poles, while the rest are buildings. At least 18 are on the airport premises itself, which airport authorities said will be altered to frangible material to avoid damage to aircraft even when they come in contact.

Sources said the height of the buildings around the



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airport is determined based on whether they are on the approach path of the runway or not. While the areas away from the runway can have some relaxations in height, those on the approach path cannot cross 46 metres in elevation for a certain length from the runway.

An interactive map on the permissible height for buildings around the airport is available specific to coordinates, but builders and individuals ignore it and construct buildings without obtaining NOC from the AAI, said airport officials. "Some buildings need to demolish the top floor, while some need to relocate the overhead tank. We have been in talks with the local body representatives," said an official.

In the latest Airport Advisory Committee meeting chaired by TR Baalu, MP, the issue was raised, and opi-

nions were sought from the Kancheepuram collector, under whose jurisdiction Kolapakkam falls. The collector was instructed to speed up the clearance work.

Airport authorities said wide-bodied aircraft refuse to land on the second runway citing the obstacles. "If the obstacles are removed, we can put the second runway to better use to make more flights land and depart from there, thus reducing the waiting time of the aircraft to get clearance to use the runways," said the official.

However, residents of Kolapakkam differ with the AAI's version. "The second runway with the current bridge over Adyar cannot be used, but AAI is trying to hide the fact by citing obstacles as the reason. We have become a soft target," says R J David, secretary of Maxworth residents welfare association.



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BANGALORE MIRROR

BANGALORE

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Airport wars

Bengaluru's second airport is shaping up to be a tug-of-war between Karnataka and



Tamil Nadu. During a recent Rajya Sabha session, Tamil Nadu MP M Thambi Durai highlighted the severe congestion at Bengaluru International Airport, recalling an incident where a flight from Hyderabad couldn't land due to heavy traffic and fuel constraints in Bengaluru, forcing a diversion to Chennai. His pitch? Develop Hosur Airport as Bengaluru's second airport, much like Delhi has Noida. However, Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu pointed out the complexities, citing existing agreements and the tricky 150 km radius rule. While Tamil Nadu is actively pursuing the Hosur option, he emphasised the need for discussions between the Centre, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Bangalore International Airport Limited. Meanwhile, former PM HD Deve Gowda reminded the Centre that Karnataka has already proposed a second airport and discussions with the Civil Aviation Minister are well underway. With the state scouting for land, the big question remains—will Bengaluru's much-needed second airport land in Karnataka or take off from Tamil Nadu?

-Sridhar Vivan



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BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

Business-class flyers from Delhi may soon have to shell out more

DIAL proposes charging international business, 1st class passengers 2x the user development fee

DEEPAK PATEL
New Delhi, 10 February

Air travel to and from Delhi Airport is likely to become much costlier. What's more, depending on your class and time of travel, it could burn an even bigger hole in your pocket.

For the first time, Delhi International Airport (DIAL), which operates the airport, has proposed charging international business and first-class passengers double the user development fee (UDF) compared to international economy and premium economy travellers over the next four financial years, according to its latest submission to the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) of India.

Until now, all departing international passengers at India's largest airport have paid a flat ₹128 as UDF on their basic ticket price. DIAL now proposes that business and first-class passengers pay ₹1,620 as UDF in 2025-26 and 2026-27, and ₹860 in 2027-28 and 2028-29. For departing international economy and premium economy travellers, the proposed UDF is ₹810 in 2025-26 and 2026-27, reducing to ₹430 in 2027-28 and 2028-29.

The UDF is included in the final price of an airline ticket. The airline collects this fee and passes it on to the operator. DIAL has cited ongoing losses, capital expenditure plans, and debt servicing as reasons for the proposal.

Business Standard has reviewed DIAL's proposal to AERA, which will take the final decision after discussions with all aviation stakeholders.

In its proposal, GMR group-led DIAL has also sought higher UDF for all domestic passengers travelling during morning and evening peak hours for the next four financial years. It has classified 5 am-8.55 am and 5 pm-8.55 pm as "peak hours".

Currently, all departing domestic passengers, like their international counterparts, pay a flat ₹128 as UDF. DIAL now proposes that domestic passengers flying during peak hours pay ₹610 in 2025-26 and 2026-27, and ₹315 in 2027-28 and 2028-29. For non-peak hours, the proposed UDF is ₹405 in 2025-26 and 2026-27, reducing to ₹210 in 2027-28 and 2028-29.

The airport operator has given multiple reasons for this proposal. "DIAL in the past has been incurring losses, and the losses for the current financial year (2024-25) are expected to be over ₹1,500 crore. DIAL has recently completed the Phase 3A expansion project, incurring huge capital expenditure in excess of ₹12,500 crore, a considerable portion of which is from borrowings. At the end of December 2024, DIAL has outstanding debt in excess of ₹15,000 crore, of which one series of bonds worth \$522 million (₹4,565 crore as per current exchange rate) is due for maturity in October 2026," DIAL said.



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DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट पर 4.5 महीने दिन में नहीं उड़ेंगे विमान, रोजाना 80 फ्लाइट्स प्रभावित

लखनऊ | लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट पर 1 मार्च से 15 जुलाई तक दिन में उड़ानें बंद रहेंगी। सिर्फ रात में फ्लाइट्स लैंड और टेक ऑफ करेगी। रनवे की मरम्मत के चलते एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ने ये फैसला लिया है। रनवे पर रोजाना सुबह 10 बजे से शाम 6 बजे तक काम चलेगा। इस फैसले के बाद 80 से ज्यादा उड़ानें रोजाना प्रभावित होंगी। करीब 20 हजार यात्रियों के बुक टिकट का पैसा रिफंड किया जाएगा। लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट को नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय यानी डीजीसीए से सोमवार को ही उड़ान बंद करने की मंजूरी मिली है। इसी वजह से मार्च में दिन के समय एयरलाइंस की वेबसाइट पर फ्लाइट भी नहीं शो हो रही हैं।



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DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

10 FEBRUARY 2025

लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट से दिन में उड़ानें होंगी बंद! कानपुर को मिल सकता है मौका

जागरण संवाददाता, लखनऊ/कानपुर : लखनऊ के चौधरी चरण सिंह अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से दिन की उड़ानें पांच माह के लिए बंद हो सकती हैं, वजह रनवे का प्रस्तावित आधुनिकीकरण व मरम्मत कार्य होना है। नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय यानी डीजीसीए सोमवार को मंजूरी दे सकता है। अगर मंजूरी मिली तो चकेरी हवाई अड्डे को पांच माह तक अतिरिक्त उड़ानें मिलने की उम्मीद है। नजदीक होने के कारण विमानन कंपनियां यहां से कुछ उड़ानें शुरू कर सकती हैं। अभी यहां से दिल्ली, मुंबई, बेंगलुरु और हैदराबाद की उड़ान की सुविधा है।

लखनऊ के एयरपोर्ट के रनवे का आधुनिकीकरण और मरम्मत कार्य को लेकर एक मार्च से 15 जुलाई तक सुबह 10 बजे से शाम छह

- एक मार्च से 15 जुलाई तक बंद करने की मिल सकती मंजूरी
- नजदीकी शहर होने से कानपुर को मिल सकती अतिरिक्त उड़ानें

बजे तक एयरपोर्ट को बंद रखने की योजना बनाई गई है। माना जा रहा है कि करीब 35 या इससे अधिक उड़ानें रद्द हो सकती हैं।

कानपुर से काफी संख्या में यात्री विमान यात्रा के लिए लखनऊ जाते हैं। ऐसे में कई विमानन कंपनियां कुछ शहरों के लिए कानपुर से उड़ान की सेवा शुरू कर सकती हैं। हवाई अड्डे के निदेशक संजय कुमार का कहना है कि अभी किसी भी कंपनी ने यहां से उड़ान शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं दिया है। अगर ऐसा प्रस्ताव मिलता है तो उस पर विचार किया जाएगा।

GMR'S PLAN TO RECOVER INFRA COST

Delhi Airport Seeks Higher User Fees for Biz Class, Peak Hrs

New model will prevent passenger charges going up exponentially at the airport, say experts

Our Bureau

New Delhi: India's busiest airport of Delhi has proposed to charge passengers based on their class and time of travel. If approved by the government, this will be the first time an airport in the country will have such a variable tariff structure.

As per the tariff document filed with the Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) by the GMR Group-owned airport and reviewed by ET, an international passenger travelling in business class will pay ₹570 as User Development Fee (UDF) from April, double that of an economy or premium economy passenger who, will pay ₹280.

UDF is levied by airport operators to recover expenses incurred on infrastructure upgradation.

ET was the first to report on February 1 about Delhi airport's plan to introduce the differential tariff model.

Similarly, domestic flyers travelling during peak hours are likely to be charged a higher landing and aircraft parking fee while those operating beyond these hours will pay a lower charge. Delhi airport has defined two windows of peak hours—5-8:55 am and 5-8:55 pm.

AERA fixes revenue targets for airports every five years based on parameters such as operating costs, depreciation, non-aero revenues and taxes, and fixes charges through which an airport operator raises revenue.

Delhi International Airport Ltd, which runs the airport in the national capital, is majority owned by GMR Airports Ltd.

People aware of the development said the new tariff model will prevent passenger charges going up exponentially at Delhi airport, which handles around 20% of In-



dia's total air traffic.

DIAL is raising charges since it has invested around ₹12,900 crore to expand Terminal 1, building a new runway, a 2.4 km

elevated taxiway, besides upgrading road infrastructure and transfer facilities. "The airport wants to spread out the charges so that the impact on a price conscious

economy passenger is lesser than someone who travels in business class. This will help to drive additional passengers as aircraft with premium configurations carry less passengers," said a person involved in the process.

Similarly, with congestion impacting operating efficiency of most airports, a peak-hour surcharge will encourage airlines to run more flights during non-peak hours by offering comparatively lower fares. "While the Delhi airport has significantly upgraded its infrastructure, there remains a saturation level beyond which capacity can't be increased. This will allow better utilisation of resources as airlines will be able to give a cheaper fare beyond these hours," the person said.

The airport has proposed an increase in landing fees for narrow body aircraft like the Airbus A320 from ₹187.88 per metric tonne to ₹300 per metric tonne during peak hours. Delhi airport, which handled 73.7 million passengers in FY24, has a maximum capacity of up to 100 million passengers per year.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Experts clear Sabarimala airport plan

HD Bureau

KOCHI

The proposed Sabarimala Greenfield International Airport in Kerala has received a significant boost as an expert committee approved the Social Impact Assessment report, recommending a comprehensive rehabilitation package for those affected by the project.

The nine-member committee, led by Prathapan, former Additional Director of the Social Justice Department, submitted its findings to the state government, emphasizing the project's potential benefits over its social impacts.

The airport is planned on approximately 2,570 acres of land in Erumeli, Kottayam District, known as Cheruvally Estate. The Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation is spearheading the ₹3,411 crore initiative, aiming to enhance connectivity for pilgrims visiting the renowned Lord Ayyappa temple in Sabarimala and to stimulate tourism and economic growth in the Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, and Idukki districts.

The SIA report highlights that the project will directly impact the livelihoods of 238 families residing in Cheruvally Estate and necessitate the relocation of 352 families. Additionally, the acquisition will affect seven places of worship, two schools, a hospital, a canteen, a ration store, and a labour office.

To mitigate these impacts, the committee has proposed a special package for current estate workers, acknowledging their deep-rooted connection to the

land, spanning five generations.

The package includes proper awareness programs and counselling to assist in their transition. Furthermore, the committee advises that estate workers previously excluded due to labour disputes be incorporated into the compensation scheme.

The report also recommends that landowners and other residents not initially included in the SIA be considered during land acquisition. Notably, some residents in Karithodu, Manimala, have requested exclusion from the project area, a plea the committee acknowledges. Currently, the estate management covers medical expenses up to ₹8,000 per month for certain workers; the committee suggests incorporating this expense into the overall compensation package for displaced workers.

In response to concerns from the management of Noyal Memorial LP School in Karithode, the committee recommends identifying and acquiring land for the school's relocation. Impacts on various shrines and religious institutions due to the project should also be addressed favorably. The SIA report emphasizes prioritizing job opportunities for current residents of the project area during both the construction and operational phases of the airport.

The Union Environment Ministry's Expert Appraisal Committee has recommended granting Standard Terms of Reference for the airport, enabling KSIDC to design an Environmental Impact Assessment.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

10 FEBRUARY 2025



2 held with ₹8cr weed at city airport

Somendra Sharma

MUMBAI

The Air Intelligence Unit (AIU) of Mumbai Airport Customs on Saturday arrested two persons for smuggling 8.155kg of hydroponic weed, valued at Rs 8.15 crore, from Bangkok. The agency is investigating the

source of the narcotics and the intended recipient in Mumbai.

According to Customs department sources, AIU officers intercepted two passengers, SM Vadhya and NH Raval, upon their arrival at CSMI Airport from Bangkok, based on profiling that suggested they might be carry-

ing narcotics.

After examining their baggage, officers found packets containing a green, dry leafy substance. When questioned, the passengers identified it as 'Ganja.' The substance tested positive for hydroponic weed, a narcotic under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.

"Preliminary investigations and their statements indicate the involvement of other persons who are yet to be traced. The investigations in the case are at a very preliminary stage and efforts are also being made to identify and apprehend key associates of the accused," said a Customs official.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

10 FEBRUARY 2025

AIR INDIA STARTS REFRESHING ITS LEGACY BOEING 777 AIRCRAFT FOR U.S.

Neha LM Tripathi

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Air India has begun refreshing its Boeing 777 aircraft operating on US and Canada routes, as global supply chain issues delay their complete retrofit, officials familiar with the matter said on Sunday.

The airline has sent the first of its 13 legacy B777 aircraft to Singapore for refreshment work last week. "The airline has tied up with SIA Engineering Company, a subsidiary of Singapore Airlines Group for the task. It aims to complete these refreshments by year-end," an official said.

Under this interim solution, the aircraft will get new seat covers, cushions, curtains and carpets aligned with Air India's new branding. The cabins will also undergo basic repairs including sprucing up of lavatories, walls, meal tables, armrests and galleys. However, the work will not cover changes to the in-flight entertainment system or aircraft livery.

Air India CEO Campbell Wilson had highlighted these challenges in an internal communication to employees last November. "The wide-body aircraft are certainly produced in a different factory, but for all airframes, there are supply challenges... every airline is impacted by it," he wrote.

In an interview with Reuters last year, Wilson said seat manufacturers were grappling with skilled labour and capacity shortages, delaying the retrofit. He estimated it would take about two years to bring the widebody fleet to international standards once the refit begins.

The airline's five-year transformation programme includes retrofitting all 67 legacy aircraft, both narrow and wide-body. While narrow-body aircraft refit is expected to be completed by July this year, the wide-body retrofit may only start next year.



Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

JAIPUR

10 FEBRUARY 2025

जयपुर एयरपोर्ट: छह से अधिक फ्लाइट का देरी से संचालन

जयपुर @ पत्रिका . जयपुर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर विमानों की देरी से आवाजाही का सिलसिला थम नहीं रहा है। रविवार को छह से अधिक फ्लाइट का देरी से संचालन हुआ। इसके अलावा एक फ्लाइट का संचालन रद्द रहा। एयर एशिया

एयरलाइन की फ्लाइट रात 9 बजकर 20 मिनट पर कुआलालम्पुर से ढाई घंटे देरी से जयपुर पहुंची। इसी प्रकार स्पाइसजेट की वाराणसी से शाम पौने चार बजे आने वाली फ्लाइट एक घंटे की देरी से पहुंची।

पढ़ें **जयपुर @** पेज 15

जयपुर...

वहीं कोलकाता, इंदौर, मुंबई व अहमदाबाद से एक एक फ्लाइट आधा घंटे की देरी से जयपुर पहुंची। इधर, जयपुर से रात 10 बजकर 20 मिनट पर कुआलालम्पुर जाने वाली फ्लाइट दो घंटे की देरी से रवाना हुई। इनके अलावा शाम को जयपुर से अहमदाबाद, देहरादून, मुंबई जाने वाली एक एक फ्लाइट आधा से पौने घंटे तक की देरी से रवाना हुई। जिससे यात्रियों को परेशानी से जूझना पड़ा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Noida International Airport partners with Uttarakhand Transport Corporation for seamless religious tour

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 9 FEBRUARY

Noida International Airport (NIA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation (UTC) today to provide seamless bus services to key destinations in Uttarakhand, including religious spots. This strategic partnership will ensure direct connectivity between NIA and major Uttarakhand cities, including Dehradun, Rishikesh, Haridwar, and Haldwani, once the airport begins commercial operations.

The airport's strategic location along the Yamuna Expressway ensures smooth road access to Delhi-NCR, Noida, and Western Uttar Pradesh, making it a key gateway for North India.



Speaking on the collaboration, a senior official of the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation said, "By integrating road and air transport, we aim to provide travellers with efficient, reliable transport options while promoting tourism and economic growth in

Uttarakhand."

Christoph Schnellmann, CEO of Noida International Airport, highlighted the initiative's broader impact: "This partnership will not only enhance passenger convenience but also drive tourism and economic growth by improving acces-

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Swami Paramatmananda, Mahamandaleswar of Panchayeti Mahanirbani Akhada, said monks of several Akhadas have urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi for hassle-free journeys for pilgrims and travellers to reach religious sites. "These initiatives will really help holy pilgrimages. This kind of initiative should be implemented for other airports also," he said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Noida International Airport partners with Uttarakhand Transport Corporation for seamless religious tour

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

10 FEBRUARY 2025

Leopard dies after being caught in wire trap

Navi Mumbai: A female leopard met a gruesome death in Sindhudurg district after being caught in a deadly wire trap, which is used by poachers to illegally hunt wild animals, reports **Umesh K Parida**. The leopard, in search of prey, was trapped in the wire contraption for several days in the Dodamarg range, and died due to starvation, as per the autopsy. It was found hanging from the trap which was laid on a slope in a private dense forest area.

Forest officials said that the menace of wire traps is

serious as protected animals are falling prey to it. Range forest officer, Vaishali Mandal said, "The trap does not have a flat surface underneath. Our team, after completing procedural formalities, visited Ker village again. Anyone wishing to share information regarding those who laid the trap should contact us. The informant's name will be kept confidential. The informant will also be rewarded."

Leopard, in search of prey, was trapped in the wire contraption for several days, and died due to starvation.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

10 FEBRUARY 2025

MNF vows to stop hand over of Mizoram airport to IAF

HC Vanlalruata | TNN

Aizawl: Mizoram's main opposition, Mizo National Front (MNF), vowed to prevent Lengpui airport in state capital from going into the hands of Indian Air Force even as Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) govt has been making efforts to hand over the lone airport to IAF. A team of MNF legislators, led by opposition leader Lalchhandama Ralte, visited the airport on Saturday.

Ralte said both MNF and Congress govts had put lot of efforts in establishing the state's first airport and successive govts ran the airport.

"When ZPM assumed office in Dec 2023, one of the first things that CM Lalduhoma did was proposing the handing over of our airport to IAF, which is shameful," he said.

"Previous CMs Lal Thanhawla (Congress) and Zoramthanga (MNF) were able to retain ownership of the airport despite financial difficulties. This shows ZPM govt's total financial failure," he said while highlighting adverse consequences — like civilian-military conflict — if the airport is handed over to IAF.

"Across India, 27 IAF-controlled airports have civilian enclaves. These bases often prioritise military operations, including jet fighter and transport plane activities. Locations such as Pune, Tezpur, Bagdogra, and Srinagar serve as examples. With Mizoram's strategic location near China, it is likely that Lengpui will be developed in-



MNF's Lalchhandama Ralte said both MNF and Congress govts put lot of efforts in establishing Lengpui airport

A team of MNF legislators, led by opposition leader Lalchhandama Ralte recently visited the airport

to a jet fighter base," he said, adding, "Frequent fighter jet sorties and airspace restrictions could limit civilian flight operations, affecting flight frequency and impacting Mizoram's economic progress. Noise pollution from fighter jets would also disrupt nearby areas, including Aizawl."

"Lengpui and its surrounding areas, including Aizawl, could become high-priority targets during conflicts due to the airport's strategic importance as a military installation. People of Mizoram will never allow their beloved airport to go into the hands of IAF," he added.

Ralte said previous MNF govt had already proposed construction of a second runway. The detailed project report of this had already been submitted to Centre.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

HYDERABAD

10 FEBRUARY 2025

MNF vows to stop handover of Mizoram's only airport to IAF

HC Vanlalruata | TNN

Aizawl: Mizoram's main opposition, Mizo National Front (MNF), vowed to prevent Lengpui airport in state capital from going into the hands of Indian Air Force even as Zoram People's Movement (ZPM) gov't has been making efforts to hand over the lone airport to IAF. A team of MNF legislators, led by opposition leader Lalchhandama Ralte, visited the airport on Saturday.

Ralte said both MNF and Congress gov'ts had put lot of efforts in establishing the state's first airport and successive



Opposition's Lalchhandama Ralte said both MNF & Congress gov'ts had put lot of efforts in establishing Lengpui airport

gov'ts ran the airport. "When ZPM assumed office in Dec 2023, one of the first things that CM Lalduhoma did was proposing the handing over of our airport to IAF, which is shameful," he

said. "Previous CMs Lal Than-hawla (Congress) and Zoram-thanga (MNF) were able to retain ownership of the airport despite financial difficulties. This shows ZPM gov't's total financial failure," he said while highlighting adverse consequences — like civilian-military conflict — if the airport is handed over to IAF.

"Across India, 27 IAF-controlled airports have civilian enclaves. These bases often prioritise military operations, including jet fighter and transport plane activities. Locations such as Pune, Tezpur, Bagdogra, and Srina-

gar serve as examples. With Mizoram's strategic location near China, it is likely that Lengpui will be developed into a jet fighter base," he said, adding, "Frequent fighter jet sorties and airspace restrictions could limit civilian flight operations, affecting flight frequency and impacting Mizoram's economic progress. Noise pollution from fighter jets would also disrupt nearby areas, including Aizawl." Ralte said previous MNF gov't had already proposed construction of a second runway. The detailed project report of this had already been submitted to Centre.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

वर्तमान में 323 उड़ान मार्ग चालू

नई दिल्ली। नागरिक उड़्डयन राज्य मंत्री मुरलीधर मोहोले ने बताया कि क्षेत्रीय हवाई संपर्क योजना उड़ान के तहत शुरू किए गए 619 मार्गों में वर्तमान में 323 मार्ग चालू हैं। इनमें वाणिज्यिक मार्ग भी शामिल हैं। वहाँ, तीन साल की नियत अवधि से पहले 114 मार्ग बंद हो गए हैं। ब्यूरो

255 यात्री नो फ्लाई सूची में

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने राज्यसभा को बताया कि तीन साल में एयरलाइनों ने 255 यात्रियों को नो फ्लाई लिस्ट में डाला। इसका कारण चालक दल के सदस्यों के साथ दुर्व्यवहार, झगड़े और मारपीट जैसी घटनाएँ हैं। 2024 में 82 और 2023 में 110 लोगों को इस सूची में डाला गया था। ब्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

323 UDAN Routes Operational: Civil Aviation Ministry

New Delhi: As many as 323 routes are presently operational out of the 619 routes that were operationalised under the regional air connectivity scheme UDAN, according to the government. Started in 2016, UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) is aimed at connecting unserved and under served routes as well as making flying more affordable.

“As on date, under the Regional Connectivity Scheme - Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN), 619 routes have been operationalised in which 323 routes are presently in operation, including those which are being sustained commercially. 114 routes have discontinued before completion of 3 years tenure,” said Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol.

In a written reply to Rajya Sabha, he said eligible routes which were discontinued in the past rounds due to various reasons have been re-bid, awarded and operationalised in the subsequent rounds.

“Several factors may account for the unoperated flights /discontinuation of routes. Key reasons for the route cancellations include disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the grounding of numerous aircraft due to global engine issues,” the minister said. —PTI





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HARI BHUMI

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमान में बम की धमकी



अहमदाबाद।
अंतरराष्ट्रीय
विमान में बम
की धमकी भरा
पत्र मिला है।
अधिकारी ने
बताया कि

सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल
अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर उतरे
जेद्दा-अहमदाबाद विमान में अभी
तक कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं मिला है।



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HINDUSTAN

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

विमान कंपनी ने ज्यादा पैसे लेकर भी नहीं दी विंडो सीट

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। हवाई सफर में ज्यादातर लोग विंडो सीट पसंद करते हैं। हाल ही में इंडिगो की एक फ्लाइट में सफर कर रहे एक यात्री को विंडो सीट के लिए अलग से भुगतान करने के बावजूद निराशा हाथ लगी। उसकी विंडो वाली सीट में विंडो ही नहीं थी।

चेन्नई के रहने वाले क्रिकेट कमेंटेटर प्रदीप मुथु ने सेल्फी शेयर

करते हुए अपना अनुभव साझा किया। उन्होंने एक्स पर अपनी सीट की एक तस्वीर पोस्ट की, जिसमें खिड़की की जगह एक दीवार दिख रही है।

पोस्ट के कैप्शन में उन्होंने लिखा, 'मैंने विंडो सीट के पैसे दिए.. विंडो कहाँ है?' मुथु की यह पोस्ट देखते ही देखते सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल हो गई।



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NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

11 FEBRUARY 2025

अहमदाबाद में अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमान में बम की धमकी, जांच में कुछ नहीं मिला

■ भाषा, अहमदाबाद : अहमदाबाद में उतरे एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमान में बम की धमकी भरा पत्र मिला। इसके बाद अधिकारियों ने विमान की तलाशी ली, लेकिन कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं मिला।

अधिकारी ने बताया, सोमवार सुबह सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर एक विमान जेद्दाह से यात्रियों को

लेकर उतरा। सफाई कर्मचारियों को एक नोट मिला, जिसमें विमान को उड़ाने की धमकी दी गई थी। इसके बाद बम निरोधक दस्ते और सुरक्षा एजेंसियों ने विमान की तलाशी ली। यात्रियों के फिंगरप्रिंट और लिखावट का मिलान करने के लिए फॉरेंसिक विशेषज्ञों को भी बुलाया गया, लेकिन कुछ पता नहीं लग सका।

महाकुंभ के लिए हर रोज हो रहा 46 उड़ानों का परिचालन

■ नागर विमानन मंत्री केआर नायडू ने राज्यसभा में दी जानकारी ■ केंद्रीय मंत्री ने उड़ानों के किराए में बढ़ोतरी की बात भी मानी

नई दिल्ली (वार्ता)।

केन्द्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री किजरापु राममोहन नायडू ने राज्यसभा में कहा कि महाकुंभ के महानगर दैनिक 46 उड़ानें अभी प्रयागराज जा रही हैं लेकिन किराये का निर्धारण बाजार आधारित है इसलिए इसमें वृद्धि हुयी है।

श्री नायडू ने सदन में प्रश्नकाल के दौरान एक पूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा कि प्रयागराज से पहले आठ स्थानों

के लिए उड़ाने होती थी लेकिन अब 15 स्थानों के लिए विमान परिचालन हो रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत से लंदन और प्रयागराज के किराये की तुलना नहीं की जा सकती है क्योंकि प्रयागराज में असाधारण मांग आने के कारण किराये में उछाल आया है।

एक अन्य पूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में मी ने कहा कि हवाई किराया वैश्विक स्तर पर बाजार आधारित है और उसका निर्धारण सरकारें नहीं



- दिल्ली से प्रयागराज का किराया आमतौर पर है चार हजार रुपये
- महाकुंभ के कारण 20 हजार से ज्यादा पर पहुंचा गया है किराया
- बाजार की मांग के आधार पर दरें तय करती हैं विमानन कंपनियां

करती है। भारत में भी विमानों का किराया इसी मानक के अनुरूप तय होता है।

उल्लेखनीय है कि महाकुंभ शुरू होने के बाद प्रयागराज के लिए विमानों का किराया बहुत अधिक बढ़ा है। आम तौर पर दिल्ली से प्रयागराज का विमान किराया चार हजार रुपये के आसपास है लेकिन महाकुंभ के कारण यह 20 हजार रुपये से अधिक हो चुका है।

उन्होंने कहा कि

पिछले 10 वर्षों में देश में विमानन क्षेत्र का बहुत प्रगति हुआ है और अभी देश में विमानन क्षेत्र में बहुत अधिक संभावना है।

देश में ग्रीन फील्ड हवाई अड्डे के लिए 2008 का कानून है और उसी के अनुरूप काम हो रहा है और सरकार को काम अंतिम व्यक्ति तक हर सेवाओं को पहुंचाना है। इसके लिए उड़ान योजना भी शुरू की गयी है और इसको विस्तार भी दिया जा चुका है।

Soaring ahead: Aviation boom

India's air transport sector is rapidly growing, fuelled by rising passenger demand and government initiatives

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As one of the fastest-growing aviation markets globally, India's air transport sector has undergone significant transformations in recent years. Driven by increasing passenger demand, government initiatives, and technological advancements, this feature explores the key trends, challenges, and prospects for the Indian air transport market.

According to data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), India witnessed a remarkable recovery in air travel in 2024, with domestic passenger traffic surpassing 161 million. This resurgence can be attributed to several factors, including

the expanding middle class and a surge in leisure travel as individuals resumed vacations and family visits. International passenger traffic also rose substantially, with 30 million passengers traveling abroad, reflecting robust demand for international routes. Major airports recorded record-high traffic numbers, further underscoring the sector's recovery and growth.

The Indian government continues to prioritise air connectivity expansion through initiatives like the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) scheme, which aims to make air travel more affordable and accessible. This program has led to the establishment of new regional airports and the launch of several underserved routes, significantly enhancing connectivity to remote areas. Over 619 routes have been operationalised under UDAN, encompassing 88 airports.

The industry anticipates Budget 2025-26

will bring new announcements to bolster this initiative further. Living up to expectations, the government unveiled an ambitious vision for UDAN's future, planning to expand the scheme to 120 new destinations and aiming to cater to an additional four crore passengers over the next 10 years. For FY26, the government has allocated ₹2,400 crore to the Civil Aviation Ministry, including ₹540 crore earmarked specifically for the UDAN scheme. Additionally, major airlines have expanded their fleets, introducing new aircraft to meet rising demand. The growth of low-cost carriers has also contributed to making air travel more affordable, further boosting passenger numbers.

In 2024, the Indian air transport market embraced technological advancements that enhance operational efficiency and passenger experience. Airlines and airports have implemented contactless travel solutions, including automated check-in kiosks, digital boarding passes, and biometric security checks, streamlining the travel process and improving customer satisfaction.

Sustainability has emerged as a key focus, with airlines investing in newer, more fuel-efficient aircraft to reduce carbon emissions.

The use of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) is gaining traction, with Indian carriers collaborating with global partners to develop and implement these eco-friendly alternatives.

Looking ahead, the Indian air transport market is poised for sustained growth. By 2030, it is projected that India will become the third-largest aviation market globally,

with the potential to handle over 500 million domestic and international passengers annually. The government's focus on enhancing airport infrastructure, increasing investment in air traffic management systems, and promoting regional connectivity will be crucial in realising this vision.

While challenges persist, the sector's resilience and adaptability position it well for a prosperous future, making air travel an essential component of India's evolving transportation landscape. Airlines are expanding their fleets to meet rising demand, while advancements in technology and sustainability initiatives are shaping the future of air travel. Additionally, public-private partnerships are playing a key role in modernising airports and improving passenger experience through innovation and enhanced efficiency.



OUTLOOK FOR 2025

SIGNIFICANT GROWTH ANTICIPATED

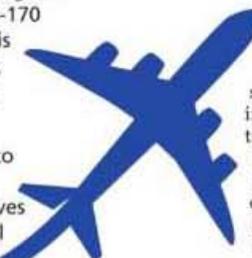
The Indian aviation sector is poised for considerable expansion in 2025,

PROJECTED PASSENGER TRAFFIC

Domestic passenger traffic is projected to grow by 7-10 per cent in FY25, reaching 164-170 million, while international traffic is expected to rise by 15-20 per cent, supported by new e-visa policies,

FLEET EXPANSION

Airlines are expanding their fleets to meet rising demand, while advancements in technology initiatives are shaping the future of air travel



The Indian air transport market is poised for sustained growth. By 2030, it is projected that India will become the third-largest aviation market globally

