



Corporate Communications Directorate

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Operation Sindoor: Nearly 1,000 flights cancelled so far

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
Mumbai, May 11

INDIA'S CIVIL FLIGHT operations is estimated to have seen nearly 1,000 cancellations since the launch of Operation Sindoor, during the early hours of May 7. With an average of 170-180 flight cancellations a day, this is just under 5% of the total number of departures.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) and relevant aviation authorities issued a series

of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) announcing the temporary closure of 32 airports across northern and western India for all civil flight operations, effective from May 9 to May 14.

Though both India and Pakistan agreed to a ceasefire on Saturday, the airports continue to remain shut.

Most of the shut airports, including those based in Bhuj, Ambala, Chandigarh, Jamnagar, Hindon and Jaisalmer, are also Indian Air Force stations.

Indian carriers like IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet are likely to face a revenue loss of ₹30 crore per day, according to a report by HSBC Global research

These airports do not see as high a passenger traffic as some of the tier 2 cities, like Pune, Kochi or Lucknow, and so the volume of cancelled flights is lower.

"Given the circumstances, this is an elevated — albeit fairly low — rate of cancellation," said London-based aviation analytics company Cirium. Since the start of May, India's average daily scheduled departures have been between 3,800 and 3,900, according to Cirium.

A report by HSBC Global Research released on Friday said that Indian airlines like IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet will face a revenue loss of ₹30 crore per day. These cancellations

include international flights also. IndiGo suspended flights to Almaty and Tashkent. Air India suspended flights to Tel Aviv.

"We calculate revenue loss of ₹16.6 crore and an Ebit loss of ₹7 crore for IndiGo, revenue loss of ₹2.3 crore and Ebit loss of ₹1.5 crore for SpiceJet and revenue loss of ₹10.5 crore and Ebit loss of ₹5 crore for Air India on a per day basis," the report added.

Due to the closure of Pakistan airspace for Indian carriers

since April 24, Indian airlines are forced to reroute flights from the north to the south of the country before heading west to destinations in Europe, the UK, Central Asia and North America.

Not only has this rerouting added more travel time to flights, but it has also increased operating costs since it causes more fuel burn. Air India, for instance, now has to make a stop at Vienna for refueling flights heading to North America.



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GREATER KASHMIR

SRINAGAR

11 MAY 2025

Closed airports await green light to resume operations after India-Pakistan ceasefire

GK News Service
New Delhi, May 10

With the ceasefire between India and Pakistan now formally in effect, attention has turned to the reopening of airspace and civilian airports that were temporarily closed amid rising hostilities. The Ministry of Civil Aviation is currently reviewing the situation, and a decision on lifting the suspension of operations at 32 affected airports is expected shortly.

The temporary closure, enforced on May 9, was originally announced for "operational reasons" and is set to remain in effect until 05:29 1st on May 15, 2025, unless revised earlier. The suspension of flight operations applies to a wide swath of northern and western India, affecting key civilian airports in Amritsar, Srinagar, Chandigarh, Leh, Jammu, and several others with dual military use or proximity to border areas.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) issued a NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) late Friday confirming the suspension, citing coordination with Air Traffic Control (ATC) units for safety and route management. In addition to airports, 25 segments of Air Traffic Service (ATS) routes within the Delhi and Mumbai Flight Information Regions (FIRs) have also been shut to commercial



traffic from ground level to unlimited altitude.

With the ceasefire now holding since 1700 hours IST on Saturday, passengers are growing anxious. Airport helplines and airline offices have seen a surge in calls from travelers seeking clarity about the resumption of flights and rescheduling options.

"People who had booked travel for this week have already started calling the airport control offices and airline counters since early this morning," said an airport official in Chandigarh, requesting anonymity. "There is no formal order yet, but we are prepared to resume operations swiftly if instructed."

Aviation industry sources say the Civil Aviation Ministry is awaiting formal clearance from defence and security agencies before lifting the suspension, especially for airports situated near international borders or sensitive zones. "Any deci-

sion to reopen airspace and civilian terminals will be taken in consultation with the Ministry of Defence," a senior official told reporters, indicating that the matter could be reviewed as early as Monday morning.

The ceasefire agreement, brokered by the United States, was formally announced late Saturday after a series of high-level communications between New Delhi and Islamabad, including a hotline conversation between the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMO) of both countries.

While the ceasefire has brought a measure of relief, airlines are treading cautiously. "We are monitoring the situation closely and will resume services as soon as regulatory approval is granted," an Air India spokesperson said. Private carriers such as IndiGo and SpiceJet have also issued advisories, asking passengers to stay updated via official channels.

ANI



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SRINAGAR

11 MAY 2025

IndiGo announces relief measures for affected passengers due to airport closure

IANS
New Delhi, May 10

Low-cost airline IndiGo on Saturday said customers who were scheduled to fly into or out of the impacted airports owing to the closure of airports, they may now choose to travel from or to another nearby airport without any additional charges.

In a statement, the airline said that due to security reasons, until airports reopen, it stands committed to supporting its customers during this time.

"We understand the uncertainty this situation may have caused and want to assure you that our team is here to help. Change and cancellation fees are being waived for bookings made during this period," said IndiGo.

If customers were scheduled to fly into or out of the impacted airports, they may now choose to travel from or to another nearby airport without any additional charges, the airline added.

"This flexibility is available across our network for eligible bookings. We are also planning to operate relief flights to support stranded passengers and will share updates as these plans are confirmed," the airline

added.

Earlier, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and relevant aviation authorities issued a series of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs), announcing the temporary closure of 32 airports across northern and western India for all civil flight operations, effective till

May 14.

The closure "corresponds to 0529 IST on

15th May 2025, due to operational reasons," said the Ministry of Civil Aviation in its latest update.

The following airports are affected by the NOTAM — Adhampur, Ambala, Amritsar, Awantipur, Bathinda, Bhubaneswar, Bikaner, Chandigarh, Halwara, Hindon, Jaisalmer, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Kandla, Kangra (Gaggal), Keshod, Kishanganj, Kullu Manali (Bhuntar), Leh, Ludhiana, Mundra, Naliya, Pathankot, Patiala, Porbandar, Rajkot (Hirasar), Sarsawa, Shimla, Srinagar, Thoise and Uttarlai.

All civil flight activities at these airports will remain suspended during this period. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has also extended the temporary closure of 25 segments of Air Traffic Service (ATS) routes within the Delhi and Mumbai Flight Information Regions (FIRs) due to operational reasons.





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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

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INDIAN AIRSPACE CURBS TO REMAIN DESPITE CEASEFIRE DEAL WITH PAK

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: Airspace curbs enforced after India launched targeted strikes on terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) on May 7, will not be discontinued in view of the ceasefire announced on Saturday, officials familiar with the matter said on Sunday.

India and Pakistan agreed on Saturday to stop all military actions against each other, bringing to an end four days of fierce fighting across the western border, although by late evening, there were enough violations by Pakistan to evoke a strong statement from India.

The airspace restrictions, initially announced until Saturday morning, had been extended until 5.29am on May 15. "These restrictions are likely to remain in place until the current Notices to Airmen (NOTAM) expires," an official said. "Once the government decides to reopen the routes and airports, the Ministry of Defence will notify the Airports Authority of India, which will then issue fresh NOTAMs to inform all stakeholders."

Currently, 32 airports and 25 flight routes are closed for operations. After the May 7 strikes, NOTAMs were issued to close all flight routes connecting Pakistan via India and nearly all airports in north India and some in the western parts were shut. "Reopening the 32 airports won't take much time, they could be operational within a few hours. But, fully restoring and utilising international flight routes could take up to 24 hours," he added.

On April 24, Pakistan barred Indian airlines and Indian-registered aircraft, after India downgraded diplomatic ties in response to the Pahalgam attack.

Due to Pakistan's action, all international Indian flights from northern India to Europe, the US, and Canada are rerouted southward. These flights pass through Mumbai's airspace, over the Arabian Sea, then into Muscat's Flight Information Region (FIR), before proceeding to their final destinations.

‘Dedicated corridor from Chennai airport will ensure smooth movement of cargo’

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

To efficiently ferry air cargo and ease congestion, the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) is exploring ways to have a dedicated corridor from the Chennai airport.

“We have to discuss this plan in detail with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), and they [the AAI] should be able to shift cargo operations to the far end of the airport. If that is agreed upon, this plan will help in decongestion and smooth movement of cargo,” a CUMTA official said.

As part of the recently held meeting of the City Logistics Coordination Committee, under the Tamil Nadu State Logistics Policy, several plans were discussed to ease regional and urban cargo movement in the city.

CUMTA is currently preparing the City Logistics Plan, and weighing the possibility of transporting cargo through Chennai Me-

tro trains during the late night hours.

“The Chennai Metro Rail Limited has agreed to shift e-commerce cargo through trains. But, we have to work out ways to handle the cargo without affecting the trains. They will also get non-fare box revenue through this initiative,” the official said.

Strategies proposed

At the meeting, 30 strategic interventions were proposed to manage and optimise nearly 300 million tonnes of cargo handled annually in the Chennai Metropolitan Area, a release said.

“The solutions were focused on easing truck entry and exit from ports, establishment of new terminals for freight handling, modal shift from road to rail and introduction of specialised services, reducing greenhouse gases emissions by freight vehicles, and decongestion of roads through efficient freight vehicle routing,” the release added.

New terminal building at airport to miss deadline

The second part of new integrated terminal building for international flights will be completed only in July 2026, say officials; construction began six years ago with a December 2025 deadline

Sunitha Sekar
CHENNAI

The second part of the new integrated terminal building (NITB) handling international flight operations at the Chennai airport may take longer to be functional owing to delay in construction work.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) officials said the work on NITB, which began with a deadline of December 2025, will be now completed only by June 2026 and will be available for international passengers by August 2026 following rigorous checks. As of now, only 25% of the work has been finished.

The AAI had allocated ₹2,467 crore and kicked off the construction of the Phase 2 modernisation project six years back, envisaging a posh terminal with new facilities for international passengers expected to handle up to 35 million passengers per year.

The first part of NITB was inaugurated in April 2023 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and currently functions as an international terminal. The second part will also be deployed for international flight operations and it will



Slow progress: Phase 2 modernisation work in progress at the Chennai airport. The new terminal for international passengers is expected to handle up to 35 million passengers per year. FILE PHOTO

be ready for air passengers only by August 2026 with rigorous checks to be done post inauguration, officials said.

Numerous difficulties

Officials said they have been battling numerous difficulties in the construction work for the second part of NITB. The COVID-19 pandemic proved a major setback for the project, “but we got out of it, expedited the work and got the first part of the NITB com-

missioned at the earliest,” an official said.

Excavation and building the basement with hard rock-like conditions made it challenging and while cost escalation issues delayed the constructions further. . “We have been putting our best efforts into this project and we will finish it for inauguration by June 2026,” the official added.

Air passengers said they have been continuously witnessing some kind of

construction work at the airport for years now.

R. Sivakumar, a frequent flyer, said, “It does not feel nice to fly in and out of an airport which constantly has some construction or the other work going on. While delays can happen with infrastructure projects, there should be some accountability and the authorities have to find a way to wrap it up soon,” he added.

India boosts airport security after drone attack threats

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

In a bid to strengthen airport security, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has temporarily assigned the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) as the Aviation Security Group, focusing on cargo operation and the in-line hold baggage screening system. "In a significant decision to boost security across Indian civil airports, the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has issued an Official Memorandum (OM) dated May 9, 2025, temporarily extending the role of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as the Aviation Security Group (ASG) to provide additional security cover to Cargo operations and the In-line Hold Baggage Screening System (ILHBSS)," CISF said.

A spokesperson for the paramilitary force said the move has been initiated following a directive issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) on May 9 "temporarily" extending CISF's cover to these processes in "direct response" to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and the subsequent security scenario in the country. This new arrangement will be in place till May 18, the spokesperson said. The CISF usually is only entrusted to frisk passengers and their cabin baggage.

The cargo and In-line Hold Baggage Screening System (ILHBSS) checking was done by private security staff engaged by the airlines and airport operators.

"The enhancement of CISF's mandate is essential to reinforce security arrangements at all civil airports," the spokesperson said. He added that the CISF has responded immediately and resumed "oversight" over cargo and baggage operations.

The CISF will also "oversee" operations



and the security staff of airport operators for ILHBSS, he said.

The directives also authorise CISF personnel to perform random checks and oversee access control to these "critical" facilities (airports), the spokesperson added.

All the airports under cover of the CISF have "already implemented" the new strengthened system, he said.

Prior to this directive, CISF's deployment as the primary aviation security force did not explicitly extend to the direct security and screening of cargo operations and the ILHBSS, officials explained.

The decision aims to introduce a crucial secondary layer of security checks to enhance aviation security, he said.

At least 60 domestic flights to and from the Delhi airport were cancelled on Saturday.

Security measures have been beefed up, and at least 32 airports in northern and

western parts of the country have been temporarily shut as the military conflict between India and Pakistan.

The source said 30 domestic departures and 30 arrivals were cancelled at the Delhi airport from 5.00 am to 2.30 pm. On Friday, 145 flights to and from the Delhi airport were cancelled by various airlines.

There have been multiple flight cancellations at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in the last few days. In a post on X on Saturday, DIAL said airport operations continue as normal.

"However, due to evolving airspace conditions and enhanced security measures as directed by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, some flight schedules may be impacted and security processing times may take longer," it said.

Passengers have also been advised to arrive early to accommodate potential delays at security checks.

Further, DIAL has requested passengers

to cooperate with airline and security staff for smooth facilitation. Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) operates IGIA. A total of 32 airports across northern and western parts of the country, including Srinagar and Amritsar, have been closed for civilian flight operations till May 15. The airports where the civil flights have been suspended include Adampur, Ambala, Amritsar, Awantipur, Bathinda, Bhub, Bikaner, Chandigarh, Halwara, Hindon, Jaisalmer, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Kandla, Kangra (Gaggal), Keshod, Kishangarh, Kullu Manali, Kishangarh, Kullu Manali (Bhuntar), Leh, Ludhiana, Mundra, Naliya, Pathankot, Patiala, Porbandar, Rajkot (Hirasar), Sarsawa, Shimla, Srinagar, Thoise, and Uttarlai. "The Airports Authority of India (AAI) and relevant aviation authorities have issued a series of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) announcing the temporary closure of 32 airports across northern and western India for all civil flight operations, effective from 9th to 14th May 2025 (which corresponds to 0529 IST on 15th May 2025), due to operational reasons." In a previous direction, 24 airports had been shut for civil operation until May 10.

Hours after India accused it of using commercial flights as shields amid drone attacks, Pakistan on Saturday shut down its airspace for all air traffic. The decision, notified through a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), came amid heightened tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours.

The move follows a night of intense drone activity along India's northern and western borders, after Pakistan launched a coordinated wave of drone attacks targeting military infrastructure across 26 locations, ranging from Leh in the north to Sir Creek in the south.



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THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

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Airport security tightened: BCAS expands CISF duties to airport cargo, baggage

The directives authorise CISF personnel to perform random checks & oversee access control to these critical facilities

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 10 MAY

In a significant decision to boost security across India's civil airports, the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has issued an Official Memorandum (OM), temporarily extending the role of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as the Aviation Security Group (ASG) to provide additional security cover to Cargo operations and the In-line Hold Baggage Screening System (ILHBSS).

The BCAS had issued

this OM on Friday, and the arrangement came into effect from the same day.

This comes in the wake of the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, and the subsequent developments and the overall prevailing security scenario in the country.

The CISF has accordingly resumed oversight over cargo and baggage operations and will oversee operations and the security staff of airport operators for ILHBSS.

The directives also authorise CISF personnel to perform random checks and oversee access control to these critical facilities.



The enhancement of the CISF's mandate is essential to reinforce security arrangements at all civil airports.

All the airports under security cover of the CISF, have already implemented the new strengthened system.

Prior to this directive, CISF's deployment as the primary aviation security force did not explicitly extend to the direct security and screening of cargo operations and the In-line Hold Baggage Screening System.

The decision aims to

introduce a crucial secondary layer of security checks to enhance Aviation security, especially amid the current scenario.

Meanwhile, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and relevant aviation authorities have issued a series of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) announcing the temporary closure of 32 airports across northern and western India for all civil flight operations, effective from 9 May to 14 May (which corresponds to 0529 IST on 15th May 2025), due to operational reasons.

All civil flight activities at these airports will remain suspended during this period.



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दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट ने यात्रियों के लिए जारी की एडवाइजरी

नई दिल्ली, 11 मई (एनएसियां)। भारत-पाक तनाव के बीच रविवार को दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट की ओर से यात्रियों के लिए एक एडवाइजरी जारी की गई। इस एडवाइजरी में दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट ने यात्रियों से फ्लाइट्स की ऑफिशियल अपडेट्स को फॉलो करने की सलाह दी है। एडवाइजरी में कहा गया है कि फ्लाइट के शेड्यूल में बदलाव भी हो सकता है। ऐसे में यात्रियों को सलाह दी जाती है कि यात्रा करने से पहले अपनी एयरलाइन के साथ संपर्क में बने रहें।



एडवाइजरी में कहा गया है कि दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर परिचालन सुचारू रूप से जारी है। हालांकि, हवाई क्षेत्र की बदलती गतिशीलता और नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो द्वारा अनिवार्य किए गए सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल के महैनजर, उड़ान के शेड्यूल में बदलाव हो सकता है और ऐसे में चेक इन पर प्रतीक्षा अर्वाधि बढ़ सकती है। इसलिए, समय से एयरपोर्ट पर पहुंचें। यात्रियों को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे संबंधित एयरलाइन के माध्यम से अपडेट प्राप्त करते रहें। किसी अन्य सोशल मीडिया या अन्य माध्यम के बहकावे में न आए। केबिन और चेक-इन बैगेज के लिए निर्धारित दिशानिर्देशों का पालन करें। एयरलाइन या दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे की आधिकारिक वेबसाइट के माध्यम से उड़ान की स्थिति की पुष्टि करें। सुरक्षा कारणों से होने वाली संभावित देरी के कारण एयरपोर्ट पर समय से पहले पहुंचें। एयरलाइन और सुरक्षा कर्मियों का पूरा सहयोग करें।



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अमृतसर हवाई अड्डे को शुरू किया जाना चाहिए : औजला

अमृतसर, 11 मई (एजेंसियां)। पंजाब के अमृतसर से काँग्रेस सांसद गुरजीत सिंह औजला ने रविवार को कहा कि अमृतसर के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे को शुरू किया जाना चाहिए। श्री औजला आज श्री गुरु रामदास इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर अधिकारियों के साथ बैठक करने पहुंचे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि अमृतसर एयरपोर्ट गुरु नगरी की रीढ़ की हड्डी है क्योंकि इस पर सारी इकोनामी डिपेंड करती है। उन्होंने कहा कि जब सारा माहौल पूरी तरह से शांत होता है तो वह पहल के आधार पर इस एयरपोर्ट को चलाने की मांग रखेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि पाकिस्तान में लाहौर का एयरपोर्ट चल रहा है लेकिन भारत में बाईर एरिया के तकरीबन सारे एयरपोर्ट बंद है जो कि जरूरी भी था लेकिन वह कहना चाहेंगे कि स्थिति को देखते हुए कुछ फ्लाइट्स चलाने की इजाजत दी जाए। उन्होंने कहा कि हालात पूरी तरह से नियंत्रण में है और किसी को भी घबराने की जरूरत नहीं है।



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12 MAY 2025

सख्त सुरक्षा व्यवस्था के बीच दिल्ली व मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर परिचालन सामान्य

नई दिल्ली, 11 मई (एजेंसियों)। दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डीआईएएल) ने रविवार को कहा कि एयरपोर्ट पर परिचालन सामान्य है, लेकिन हवाई क्षेत्र प्रतिबंधों के कारण कुछ उड़ानें प्रभावित हैं और सख्त सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल के कारण सिक्योरिटी चेक प्रक्रिया में अधिक समय लग सकता है। साथ ही डीआईएएल ने यात्रियों को सलाह दी कि वे उड़ान के निर्धारित प्रस्थान समय से काफी पहले पहुंच जाएं जिससे सिक्योरिटी चेकप्वाइंट पर संभावित देरी से बचा जा सके।



यात्रियों से यह भी आग्रह किया गया है कि वे सटीक जानकारी के लिए केवल आधिकारिक स्रोतों पर ही भरोसा करें और सोशल मीडिया पर अनवैरिफाइड कंटेंट साझा करने से बचें। इसके अतिरिक्त बढ़े हुए सुरक्षा उपायों के कारण मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट ने भी एक एडवाइजरी जारी कर यात्रियों से कहा है कि वे निर्धारित प्रस्थान समय से पहले पहुंचें। साथ ही यात्रियों को सलाह दी गई है कि वे सरकार द्वारा जारी फोटो पहचान पत्र, पासपोर्ट, वीजा, टिकट/बोर्डिंग पास अपने पास रखें, जिससे आसानी से निरीक्षण किया जा सके। सरकार ने शुक्रवार को जम्मू, श्रीनगर, लेह, जोधपुर, अमृतसर, भुज, जामनगर, चंडीगढ़ और राजकोट समेत देश भर के 24 एयरपोर्ट को बंद रखने की अवधि के 15 मई, सुबह 5:29 बजे तक बढ़ा दिया।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

11 MAY 2025

32 airports shut; Flights from Delhi, Mum. normal

VINEETA PANDEY | DC
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

The 32 airports that were shut by the government for civil use during the India, Pakistan border tensions, will continue to be out of bounds for commercial flights for the time being despite the two countries announcing to go for a ceasefire on Saturday. Sources said these 32 airports also serve as air bases for the military and are under Indian Air Force control as of now. The government is in the process of assessing damages to the airports in the frontline

in the wake of missile and drone attacks by Pakistan.

For the passengers stuck with closed airports, airlines like IndiGo have offered the flexibility to travel to any of nearby airports without any extra charges. IndiGo also announced to fly relief flights to support stranded passengers.

Amid heightened security operations at major airports like Delhi and Mumbai remained normal through the day. In Delhi 60 flights were cancelled due to the airspace restrictions. Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), which operates

the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), said that operations are presently normal at the airport. Passengers at all airports have also been advised to arrive early to accommodate potential delays at security checks and adhere to baggage guidelines. The security checks will not be withdrawn immediately. In fact, in a significant decision to boost security across civil airports, the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has temporarily extended the role of the CISE.

69 हवाईअड्डों पर कार्गो व बैगेज की जांच करेगी सीआइएसएफ

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच विगत चार दिनों से जारी संघर्ष के परिणामस्वरूप सुरक्षा उपायों को बढ़ाने के मद्देनजर केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल (सीआइएसएफ) की जिम्मेदारी बढ़ा दी गई है। सरकार ने इस अर्धसैनिक बल को अब देश के 69 नागरिक हवाईअड्डों पर कार्गो परिचालन और इन-लाइन बैगेज की जांच का भी निर्देश दिया है।

अर्धसैनिक बल के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि यह कदम नौ मई को नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) द्वारा जारी निर्देश के बाद उठाया गया है, जिसमें पहलवाम में आतंकवादी हमले और उसके बाद देश में उत्पन्न सुरक्षा परिदृश्य के मद्देनजर इन प्रक्रियाओं के लिए सीआइएसएफ का कवर "अस्थायी रूप से" बढ़ाया गया है। प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि यह नई व्यवस्था 18 मई तक लागू रहेगी।

गौरतलब है कि सीआइएसएफ को आम तौर पर केवल यात्रियों और उनके केबिन बैगेज की तलाशी लेने का काम सौंपा जाता है। कार्गो और इन-लाइन होल्ड बैगेज स्क्रीनिंग सिस्टम (आइएलएचबीएसएस) की जांच एयरलाईंस और एयरपोर्ट आपरेटरों द्वारा नियुक्त निजी सुरक्षा कर्मचारियों द्वारा की जाती थी। बहरहाल, प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि सीआइएसएफ के अधिकार क्षेत्र में वृद्धि सभी नागरिक हवाईअड्डों पर सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को मजबूत करने के लिए आवश्यक है।

उन्होंने कहा कि निर्देश के तुरंत बाद ही सीआइएसएफ ने कार्गो परिचालन तथा बैगेज की "निगरानी" शुरू कर दी है। निर्देश में सीआइएसएफ कर्मियों को हवाईअड्डों पर आकस्मिक जांच करने करने का भी अधिकार दिया

- सुरक्षा उपायों को बढ़ाने के मद्देनजर सरकार ने सीआइएसएफ को दिया निर्देश
- सीआइएसएफ को नई जिम्मेदारी की अस्थायी व्यवस्था 18 मई तक लागू रहेगी

भारतीय क्षेत्र में हमले को पाकिस्तान ने किया आत्मघाती ड्रोन का उपयोग

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : पाकिस्तान ने भारतीय हवाई क्षेत्र में घुसपैठ और हमले के लिए कामिकेज ड्रोन और सशस्त्र मानव रहित हवाई वाहनो (यूएवी) का इस्तेमाल किया, लेकिन भारतीय सेना ने इन हमलों को प्रभावी ढंग से विफल कर दिया है।

तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों ने बताया कि कामिकेज ड्रोन या आत्मघाती ड्रोन लक्ष्य पर गोला-बारूद गिराने के बाद खुद को नष्ट कर देता है। सूत्र ने बताया कि ड्रोन ने आर्मेनिया-अजरबैजान संघर्ष और रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है, लेकिन भारत और पाकिस्तान के संदर्भ में पहली बार इतने बड़े पैमाने पर ड्रोन का उपयोग किया गया है।

गया है। सीआइएसएफ के संरक्षण में आने वाले सभी हवाईअड्डों ने नई प्रणाली को "पहले ही लागू" कर दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस निर्णय का उद्देश्य विमानन सुरक्षा को बढ़ाने के लिए सुरक्षा जांच का एक महत्वपूर्ण द्वितीयक स्तर शुरू करना है।





Corporate Communications Directorate

GREATER KASHMIR

SRINAGAR

11 MAY 2025

Ceasefire brings hope to Hajj aspirants

Srinagar Airport set to resume operations

Mukeet Akmal
Srinagar, May 10

The ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan has brought a wave of relief to Hajj aspirants in Jammu and Kashmir, whose pilgrimage plans were disrupted due to escalating tensions leading to the closure of Srinagar International Airport.

The conflict, which intensified following a deadly attack on Indian tourists in Kashmir on April 22, resulted in both nations engaging in military exchanges.

In response, the Government of India closed several airports, including Srinagar,

as a precautionary measure.

This closure severely impacted the Hajj 2025 schedule. According to officials, only one Hajj flight from Srinagar to Jeddah departed on May 4, carrying 178 pilgrims.

Subsequent flights scheduled through May 14 were cancelled, leaving many pilgrims in uncertainty.

However, hope has been rekindled with the announcement of a full and immediate ceasefire between the two countries.

The agreement, facilitated by international mediation, was confirmed by both governments and has been welcomed by leaders and citizens

alike. "We are hopeful that flights will resume. Earlier, we had proposed to take the Hajj pilgrims to other embarkation points where they could board flights to Jeddah to complete the Hajj formalities. However, we have not received any response from the central government so far," CEO of J&K Hajj Committee, Shujaat Qureshi told *Greater Kashmir*.

This year, 3622 pilgrims were selected to undertake the Hajj pilgrimage from J&K.

Of these, only 178 have departed from Srinagar, while 480 J&K pilgrims who had chosen Delhi as their

embarkation point have successfully left.

"Remaining Hajj aspirants are awaiting as due to the prevailing situation Hajj flights have been cancelled up to May 14," Qureshi said.

A notification issued by the committee states, "In continuation of this office notification dated May 9, 2025, it is to intimate that given the prevailing situation, all chartered Hajj flights which were scheduled up to May 14, 2025, stand cancelled."

The notification advised pilgrims to remain patient and await further instructions.

This year marked a signif-

icant decrease in Hajj applications from J&K.

Despite receiving a quota of over 8000 seats from the Hajj Committee of India, only 3622 people applied, and all were selected.

This contrasts sharply with previous years when applications far exceeded available seats, necessitating a selection lottery and often prompting the J&K government to request additional quotas.

Officials attribute this year's reduced interest to increased costs associated with the pilgrimage.

Meanwhile, the flight cancellations have left many

pilgrims and their families distressed.

Firdous Ahmad, whose parents were scheduled to depart on May 14, expressed his disappointment saying, "It is sad, it is a religious obligation, and my parents were preparing for this for a whole year, but now this war has shattered everything. There are apprehensions about whether they can go or not."

As tensions continue between the neighbouring countries, the fate of thousands of pilgrims remains uncertain, with religious aspirations and considerable financial investments hanging in the balance.



Corporate Communications Directorate

GREATER KASHMIR

SRINAGAR

11 MAY 2025

At least 60 domestic flights cancelled at Delhi airport



Press Trust of India
New Delhi, May 10

At least 60 domestic flights to and from the Delhi airport were cancelled on Saturday, a source said.

Security measures have been beefed up, and at least 32 airports in northern and western parts of the country have been temporarily shut as the military conflict between India and Pakistan has intensified.

The source said 30 domestic departures and 30 arrivals were cancelled at the Delhi airport from 5.00 am to 2.30 pm.

On Friday, 138 flights to and from the Delhi airport were cancelled by various airlines.

There have been multiple flight cancellations at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in the last few days.

In a post on X on Satur-

day, DIAL said airport operations continue as normal.

"However, due to evolving airspace conditions and enhanced security measures as directed by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, some flight schedules may be impacted and security processing times may take longer," it said.

Passengers have also been advised to arrive early to accommodate potential delays at security checks.

Further, DIAL has requested passengers to cooperate with airline and security staff for smooth facilitation.

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) operates IGIA.

A total of 32 airports across northern and western parts of the country, including Srinagar and Amritsar, have been closed for civilian flight operations till May 15.

97 flights cancelled, over 150 delayed at IGI amid ceasefire

Jasjeev Gandhiok

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NEW DELHI: At least 97 flights were cancelled and over 150 were delayed in Delhi on Sunday as the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport continued to reel from the closure of 32 airports in western and northern states of India due to ongoing hostilities with Pakistan, even as an agreement to stop all military action was reached on Saturday.

According to airport data, 96 of the 97 flights were domestic, and of these 44 were arrivals and 52 were departures. The other one was the only international flight, to Tel Aviv in Israel, to be cancelled.

"The flights impacted included 44 arrivals and 52 departures. Only one International flight was cancelled, which was flight AI-139 – to Tel Aviv," said an airport official aware of the matter.

According to flight tracking website FlightRadar, over 150 flights were also delayed on Sunday, with an average delay time of 15 minutes. A day earlier, 60 flights were cancelled and over 200 were delayed.

On Sunday, as many as 32 airports were shut across the country due to security reasons. These are airports primarily in the north, northwest and the western part of the country, close to the Pakistan border. The closure will be effective from "May 9, 2025, to May 14, 2025 (which corresponds to 0529 IST on 15th May 2025), due to operational reasons," the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said in a release on Saturday.

The Delhi airport is the biggest one still operational in northwest India. Airports in a few nearby cities, such as Dehradun, Lucknow, and Jaipur, among others, are also functioning as of now.

Meanwhile, security contin-



Long queues of passengers were spotted at the New Delhi Railway Station on Sunday.

SALMAN ALI/HT PHOTO

ued to remain high at the Delhi airport, with additional checks being carried out for each passenger. Airlines have also been urging passengers to reach the airport at least three hours before their scheduled time of departure.

In an advisory on Sunday, the Delhi airport said, "Delhi airport is operating normally. However, due to changes in airspace dynamics and increased security measures, some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be affected."

On Saturday, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) said it was mandated to provide additional security at airports in the country, including Delhi.

Ajay Dahiya, DIG (chief PRO), CISF, said they had responded immediately and resumed oversight over cargo and baggage operations. "CISF will oversee operations and the security staff of airport operators. Directives also authorise CISF to perform random checks," he said.

Govt, police remain alert

Hemani Bhandari and Paras Singh

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Capital will continue to remain on high alert in case any escalation with Pakistan is reported from the border, the Delhi Police said on Sunday.

Paramilitary forces, reserved police, and special weapons and tactics (Swat) teams deployed in sensitive areas will remain in place, and local police will keep conducting regular mock drills to ensure preparedness.

"Deployment of paramilitary forces and reserved police in sensitive areas will remain as it is for now and Swat teams will also remain deployed in prominent areas," a senior police officer said.

Leaves of officials in key government departments will remain cancelled, and installa-

tion of air raid sirens will continue. Each of the city's 11 districts will have 10 air raid sirens.

A second officer said the local police have been directed to closely coordinate with all government agencies such as Civil Defence, Delhi Fire Services, and civic bodies during mock drills. "Bomb disposal squads are deployed close to crowded markets where they have conducted drills to ensure they reach in time in case of an untoward event. Police said they'll remain on high alert for the next few days," the officer added.

Delhi Jal Board officials said they have tested backup plans in situations of power cuts. "The lessons from the mock drill at Wazirabad are being implemented," an official said.

An NDMC official said machinery such as trucks and bulldozers along with resources

needed for repairs have been stocked up. "Backup plans to ensure uninterrupted water and power supply in Lutyens' Delhi have been prepared and protocol remains in place," the official said, adding that the disaster management centre near Jor Bagh is operating in three shifts on full capacity. Picket checkings have also been increased in the city, police said.

Delhi chief minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday conducted a review meeting with all departments' officials. A government official said the orders to keep contingency plans still remain.

The Delhi Transport Corporation and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) were told to finalise evacuation plans. A DMRC official said it has emergency evacuation measures in place for natural disasters or law and order situations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

11 MAY 2025

Security alert at airport



Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF) jawans check passengers at the Jai Prakash Narayan International Airport amid the India-Pakistan tension, in Patna on Saturday. With announcement of ceasefire, such grills and related inconvenience to passengers and airlines may decrease considerably.

SANTOSH KUMAR/HT



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

AMID INDIA-PAK TENSIONS

IGIA ops normal, some flight schedules hit as many airports still shut

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 11

EVEN AS some flight schedules were impacted due to changing airspace dynamics, operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport were running smoothly on Sunday.

As many as 97 flights, including an international one, were cancelled due to northern airports being closed amid the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan.

"Delhi Airport operations are running smoothly. However, due to evolving airspace dynamics and enhanced security protocols, some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be impacted," Delhi airport said in a post on X on Sunday afternoon.

"Passengers are advised to follow updates and instructions from their respective airlines, adhere to hand baggage and check-in luggage regulations, allow extra time for security checks due to heightened measures, cooperate with airline and security personnel for smooth facilitation, and check latest flight status through their airline or the official Delhi Airport website," the post added.

Due to rising tensions between India and its neighbour

after the latter resorted to drone and missile attacks, Indian aviation authorities had ordered temporary closure of 32 airports in northern and western parts of the country.

The affected airports include Srinagar, Jammu, Leh, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Ambala, Ludhiana, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Uttarai, Rajkot, Bhuj, Jamnagar, Dharamshala, Bathinda, Patiala, Pathankot, Shimla, Kishangarh, Hindon, Porbandar, Mundra, and Kandla.

On Saturday, even after India and Pakistan reached an understanding to stop firing and military actions on land, air and sea with immediate effect, airports, which are shut till May 15, were not reopened immediately.

Security at all the operational airports have been stepped up to the highest level in light of the conflict.

Aviation security regulator Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) had on Thursday ordered secondary pre-boarding checks for all passengers and flights, banning entry of visitors at airport terminals, and deployment of required number of air marshals in line with the increased threat perception, among several other security and surveillance measures — all of which shall be in place till at least May 18.



Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर 100 उड़ानें रद्द

नई दिल्ली, 11 मई (ब्यूरो)।

दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे से प्रस्थान और आगमन वाली करीब 100 उड़ानें रविवार को रद्द कर दी गईं। भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच भले ही संघर्षविराम का एलान कर दिया गया है, लेकिन सुरक्षा उपाय अभी लागू हैं। देश के उत्तरी और पश्चिमी हिस्सों में कम से कम 32 हवाई अड्डों पर विमानों का परिचालन अस्थायी रूप से बंद है।

भारत और पाकिस्तान रविवार को जमीन, हवा और समुद्र में सभी तरह की सैन्य कार्रवाई तत्काल रोकने पर सहमत हो गए थे। सूत्रों के अनुसार रविवार को दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर 52 घरेलू प्रस्थान और 44 आगमन व एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रस्थान उड़ान रद्द कर दी गईं। सुबह पांच बजे से शाम साढ़े चार बजे के बीच की इन उड़ानों को रद्द किया गया। दिल्ली अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा लिमिटेड (डायल) ने 'एक्स' पर एक पोस्ट में कहा, दिल्ली हवाई अड्डा सामान्य रूप से संचालित हो रहा है। हालांकि, विमानों की आवाजाही में परिवर्तन और सुरक्षा उपायों में बढ़ती तरो के कारण कुछ उड़ानों के कार्यक्रम और सुरक्षा जांच केंद्रों पर लगने वाला समय प्रभावित हो सकता है। डायल राष्ट्रीय राजधानी के इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे का संचालन करता है, जो देश का सबसे व्यस्त हवाई अड्डा है। भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव को देखते हुए हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा व्यवस्था बढाई गई थी, जो अभी भी लागू है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

IGI flight disruptions on, 100 cancelled



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE | New Delhi

FLIGHT cancellations continued at Delhi's IGI airport as 32 airports continued to remain shut for operations.

Airport officials said as many as 96 domestic flights and one international flight were cancelled on Sunday. According to them, flight cancellations at Delhi airport between 5 am and 4:30 pm in the day included 52 domestic departures, 44 domestic arrivals, and one international departure. The Delhi International Airport Limited

(DIAL) has issued a travel advisory urging passengers to brace for possible flight schedule adjustments and longer wait times at security checkpoints.

In a post on X, Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), which operates the Indira Gandhi International Airport, said: "Delhi Airport is operating normally. However, due to changes in airspace dynamics and increased security measures, some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be



affected." The advisory, released on Sunday, comes in response to evolving airspace dynamics and strengthened security protocols mandated by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security.

The current security measures were introduced in the wake of escalating tensions between India and Pakistan earlier this week. On Saturday, both countries agreed to a ceasefire, effective from 5 pm IST, halting all military activity across land, sea, and air.

Despite the de-escalation, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) had directed all civil airports to maintain high-alert procedures, particularly at baggage screening areas and cargo terminals. As per ATC officials, the flight cancellations due to temporary closure of airports have impacted close to 40 per cent of the air traffic.

"Delhi Airport has many direct and connecting flights to these (temporarily shut) airports. The closure has impacted the air traffic by reducing it to 60 per cent," an official said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

इसी सप्ताह नोएडा इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट पर उड़ान सुरक्षा परखेगी बकास की टीम

फिर तकनीकी मानकों की जांच कर जारी हो सकता है एयरोड्रम लाइसेंस

■ NBT न्यूज, ग्रेटर नोएडा

नोएडा इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट का काम अंतिम और सबसे अहम पड़ाव पर पहुंच चुका है। एयरपोर्ट की उड़ान सुरक्षा और तकनीकी मानकों की जांच अब उच्च स्तरीय एजेंसियां करेंगी। ब्यूरो ऑफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी (बकास) की एक विशेषज्ञ टीम इसी सप्ताह एयरपोर्ट का दौरा करेगी। इस दौरान टर्मिनल की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था, स्क्रीनिंग प्रक्रिया, एंटी-एग्जिट पॉइंट्स और सुरक्षाकर्मियों की तैनाती की जांच होगी। इसके तुरंत बाद नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) रनवे, एप्रन, टैक्सिवे और



एटीसी सहित तमाम तकनीकी पहलुओं की जांच करेगा।

निरीक्षण इस बात को सुनिश्चित करेगा कि एयरपोर्ट पर कमशाल उड़ानों की

शुरुआत से पहले सुरक्षा और परिचालन मानक पूरे हैं या नहीं। इसके आधार पर ही एयरोड्रम लाइसेंस जारी होगा, जो एयरपोर्ट संचालन के लिए अनिवार्य है। पिछले निरीक्षण के दौरान एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया की टीम ने कई व्यवस्थाओं में तकनीकी और संरचनात्मक खामियां पाई थीं। इन पर सुधार के लिए विस्तृत सुझाव दिए गए थे। अब देखा जाएगा कि उन सुझावों पर कितना अमल हुआ है। जांच के बाद यदि सभी मानक पूरे पाए जाते हैं तो डीजीसीए एयरपोर्ट को ऑपरेशनल क्लियरेंस देगा। इसके बाद एयरलाइंस को स्लॉट्स अलॉट किए जाएंगे और उड़ानों की शुरुआत की तारीख तय होगी।

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर 100 उड़ानें रद्द एडवाइजरी जारी

नई दिल्ली, 11 मई (नवोदय टाइम्स): भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव के चलते रविवार को इंटरनेशनल (आईजीआई) उड़ानें रद्द होने का सिलसिला जारी रहा। एयरपोर्ट आने व जाने वाली लगभग 100 उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं। सूत्रों की मानें ये देश के उत्तरी और पश्चिमी भागों से कम से कम 32 हवाई अड्डों को अस्थायी रूप से बंद किया गया है।

इस बीच आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की तरफ से यात्रियों के लिए एक एडवाइजरी जारी की गई। एडवाइजरी में एयरपोर्ट ने यात्रियों से फ्लाइट्स के ऑफिशियल अपडेट्स को फॉलो करने की सलाह दी है। एडवाइजरी में कहा गया है कि फ्लाइट के शेड्यूल में बदलाव भी हो सकता है। ऐसे में यात्रियों को सलाह दी जाती है कि यात्रा से पहले अपनी एयरलाइन के साथ संपर्क में बने रहें।

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट सूत्रों के अनुसार रविवार सुबह 5 बजे से शाम 4.30 बजे के बीच एयरपोर्ट से जाने वाली 52 तथा 44 आने वाली घरेलू उड़ानों को रद्द किया गया। इसके अलावा एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ान को भी रद्द

प्रतिदिन होता है 1300 उड़ानों का आवागमन

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट देश के सबसे व्यस्त एयरपोर्ट में शामिल है। प्रतिदिन यहां से लगभग 1,300 उड़ानों का आवागमन होता है। डायल ने यात्रियों को सलाह दी है कि वे सुरक्षा जांच के लिए अतिरिक्त समय लेकर चलें और सुचारू सुविधा के लिए विमानन कंपनी और सुरक्षाकर्मियों के साथ सहयोग करें। डायल की एडवाइजरी में कहा गया है कि एयरपोर्ट पर परिचालन सुचारू रूप से जारी है। लेकिन हवाई क्षेत्र की बदलती गतिशीलता और नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो द्वारा अनिवार्य किए गए सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल के मद्देनजर, उड़ान के शेड्यूल में बदलाव हो सकता है और ऐसे में 'चेक इन' पर प्रतीक्षा अवधि बढ़ सकती है। इसलिए यात्री समय से एयरपोर्ट पर पहुंचें।

किया गया। एयरपोर्ट का संचालन करने वाली कंपनी दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) ने एक्स पर पोस्ट कर लिखा कि दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट सामान्य रूप से काम कर रहा है। हालांकि, सुरक्षा उपायों के चलते कुछ उड़ानों के कार्यक्रम और सुरक्षा जांच बिंदुओं पर प्रक्रिया का समय थोड़ा प्रभावित हो सकता है।





Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

DIAL issues travel advisory: Flight delays, longer wait times

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

Amid heightened security concerns following tensions between India and Pakistan, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has issued a travel advisory urging passengers to brace for possible flight schedule adjustments and longer wait times at security checkpoints. DIAL has also issued a firm reminder to passengers to avoid spreading or acting on unverified content, emphasising that all updates should be sourced from official channels. According to sources, around 100 flights to and from the Delhi's IGI airport were cancelled on Sunday including 52 domestic departures, 44 arrivals, and one international departure. As many as 52 domestic departures and 44 arrivals, and one international departure were cancelled. These cancellations happened between 5 am and 4.30 pm, the source said.

The advisories, released on Sunday, comes in response to evolving airspace dynamics and strengthened security protocols mandated by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). While DIAL confirmed that airport operations continue to run smoothly, officials acknowledged that increased scrutiny at checkpoints could impact passenger processing times. In a post on X, the Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said the Delhi Airport is operating normally. However, due to changes in airspace dynamics and increased security measures, some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be affected.

In another post, it advised passengers to follow updates and instructions from their airlines. "Comply with hand baggage and check-in luggage regulations. Allow

extra time for security checks due to heightened measures. Cooperate with airline and security personnel for smooth facilitation. Check the latest flight status through their airline or the official Delhi Airport website. We urge passengers to refer only to official channels for accurate updates. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work with all stakeholders to ensure your journey remains safe and efficient," it said.

In its third post, the Delhi airport further advised passengers to refer only to official channels for accurate updates. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we work closely with all stakeholders to ensure your journey remains safe and efficient. However, the Delhi Airport stated that some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be affected due to changes in airspace dynamics and increased security measures. Delhi airport authorities has claimed that operations are normal but some flights and the processing time at security checkpoints might be impacted due to the changing airspace dynamics and enhanced security protocols.

Security measures were enhanced, and at least 32 airports in the northern and western parts of the country were temporarily shut in view of the conflict between India and Pakistan. On Saturday, India and Pakistan reached an understanding to stop all firings and military actions on land, air, and sea with immediate effect. DIAL operates the national capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), which is the busiest airport in the country.

According to the NOTAM, these closures are effective until May 14, 2025, due to security reasons related to the current situation.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

Bhopal awaits an international airport

GIRISH SHARMA ■ Bhopal

Nearly eight years after former Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan declared Raja Bhoj Airport ready for international operations, Bhopal still awaits its first full-fledged international flight service.

Despite repeated assurances and infrastructure upgrades, the reality remains unchanged — international air connectivity from the state capital is still at the "soon-to-commence" stage. Demand for international flights, particularly to destinations like Dubai, has steadily increased, with more than 20 passengers reportedly traveling daily from Bhopal to catch connecting flights elsewhere. Yet, instead of boarding from their home city, these passengers continue to rely on airports in Indore or other metro cities.

The situation briefly saw a symbolic change during the recent Global Investors Summit (GIS), when a solitary international flight was handled at Bhopal airport. However, that lone instance has done little to shift the narrative. As things stand, all necessary clearances for international operations have been granted — yet no regular flight service has begun.

The Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and MP Chapter of TAAI (MP-CG) recently held talks with airport authorities and airline representatives. According to TAAI Treasurer CK Raj, airlines like IndiGo and Air India Express have agreed in principle to start flights to Dubai and Jeddah.

"We have received consent from the airline companies. Now it's just about implementation," Raj told *The Pioneer*. Raj is also a member in the Airport Authority Advisory Committee.



Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

हवाई अड्डों पर सुरक्षा उपाय कड़े, सुरक्षा जांच के लिए अतिरिक्त समय लेकर चलें

अभी भी बंद हैं 32 हवाई अड्डे, रेल सेवा हो रही धीरे-धीरे बहाल

हवाई क्षेत्र के बदलते परिदृश्य और सुरक्षा बढ़ाने से हो सकती हैं उड़ानें प्रभावित

पत्रिका ब्यूरो
patrika.com

नई दिल्ली. भारत के पाकिस्तान के साथ तनाव के चलते अभी भी 32 हवाई अड्डे बंद हैं। सीजफायर की घोषणा के बावजूद ऐहतियात बरतते हुए इनको खोलने का फैसला लंबित है। इस बारे में केंद्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्रालय का केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय से संपर्क बना हुआ है। वहीं दिल्ली के हवाई अड्डों पर विमानों का परिचालन सामान्य रूप से जारी है। हालांकि, हवाई क्षेत्र के बदलते परिदृश्य और सुरक्षा बढ़ाने के कारण कुछ उड़ानें प्रभावित हो सकती हैं। वहीं सुरक्षा जांच में पहले की तुलना में ज्यादा समय लगने के चलते यात्रियों से इसके अनुसार अपना यात्रा प्लान बनाने की अपील की है।

बहाल होती रेलवे सेवा, ट्रेनें शुरू

सीजफायर की घोषणा के बाद उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे ने राजस्थान में 27 ट्रेनों की सेवारं फिर से शुरू की है। जो पहले सुरक्षा कारणों से स्थगित या आंशिक बंद की गई थी। जबकि अन्य जगह भी ट्रेनों का संचालन सुचारू किया जा रहा है।

दरअसल, तनाव, ब्लैक आउट और सुरक्षा कारणों से भारत-पाक की सीमा से सटे करीब 32 हवाई अड्डों को बंद किया गया था। फिलहाल सैन्य कार्रवाई कम हो गई है। अभी इन हवाई अड्डों को खोलने का फैसला होना बाकी है।

दिल्ली में स्थित देश के सबसे व्यस्त हवाई अड्डे इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे प्रशासन ने यात्रियों को सलाह दी है कि वे सुरक्षा जांच के लिए अतिरिक्त समय लेकर चलें और सुचारू सुविधा के लिए विमानन कंपनी और सुरक्षाकर्मियों के साथ सहयोग करें। यहां से औसतन प्रतिदिन लगभग 1,300 उड़ानों का आवागमन होता है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

11 MAY 2025

Kolkata airport gets five-tier security

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport has been placed under an unprecedented five-layered security system by the CISF following intelligence alerts from BCAS

RAJIB CHAKRABORTY
KOLKATA, 10 MAY

Amid heightened tensions in the subcontinent and an intelligence-based alert from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport in Kolkata has been placed under an unprecedented five-tier security system, enforced by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Officials say the measures are part of an integrated, round-the-clock counter-sabotage plan designed to neutralise potential threats to one of India's busiest and most strategically located international airports. Senior CISF officers confirmed that the tightened regime, spanning perimeter surveillance, access control, terminal building security, passenger and baggage screening, and airside security, was triggered by



credible intelligence inputs hinting at possible disruptions. A senior CISF official, speaking on condition of anonymity, described the plan as "fool-proof and comprehensive," incorporating coordination with national intelligence units including the Intelligence Bureau (IB), the elite National Security Guard (NSG), the state police, and represen-

tatives of the cabinet secretariat.

"It's not just about passenger safety anymore," the official said. "We're dealing with scenarios where the airport itself may be a high-value target."

Inside the terminal, passengers are undergoing enhanced scrutiny at multiple checkpoints, well beyond the



routine frisking at security gates. Vehicle access is being closely monitored at all entry points, including the ramp leading to the departure level. Airport employees, including airline staff and ground per-

sonnel, have been instructed not to loiter outside their designated zones, and all access areas are being monitored by CISF personnel aided by AI-driven surveillance systems. Meanwhile, height-

ened caution is also in effect in the skies. Commercial airline pilots are switching from satellite-based GPS systems to more secure inertial reference systems (IRS), a shift that underscores the

potential risk of GPS spoofing amid fears of cyber warfare. "In case of a cyber attack, GPS interference is easier compared to IRS," said a senior pilot, who recently flew a domestic route from Kolkata to Bangalore. "For the past few days, we have at times avoided selecting GPS and are relying more on the IRS, which cannot be tampered with from outside."

IRS, a self-contained navigational system, relies on motion sensors and gyroscopes rather than external signals, offering a safer fallback for flight crews navigating high-alert air corridors. On the ground, Kolkata is not alone in witnessing operational disruptions. Flights to Srinagar, Amritsar, and several destinations in Bihar have been cancelled based on specific intelligence inputs, according to aviation sources. Across India, leaves of air traffic controllers have been cancelled until further notice, and the

BCAS has instructed all airports to remain on maximum alert between 8 May 18 and May. At NSCBI Airport, CISF has launched phase-wise mock drills and emergency preparedness training for all staff levels—from security personnel to cabin crew. Every department, including catering services and non-scheduled operations like air ambulances, is under surveillance. Visitors have been banned from the terminal premises, and airport authorities have been told to ensure 100 per cent functionality of closed-circuit cameras.

"This airport is a critical node, not just for domestic travel but for international connectivity," a senior airport official said. "We are treating this with the seriousness it deserves." India's eastern gateway, a vital link to Southeast Asia, has now become a microcosm of the national mood—alert, prepared, and on edge.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

11 MAY 2025

Bengal STF on high alert after arms recovery near city airport

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA, 10 MAY

Police have intensified security at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport and its surrounding areas after receiving intelligence warnings about potential threats, arresting four suspected arms traffickers in a coordinated operation late Friday. Officials said the arrests were made by West Bengal Police's Special Task Force (STF) during a targeted search in Narayanpur, a northern suburb just outside the airport perimeter.

Acting on a tip-off, STF officers intercepted a vehicle allegedly transporting illegal firearms. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of one 7mm pistol, two country-made pipe guns, and 14 live cartridges, police said in a statement. The suspects, identified as Linkon Hossain, Bakibilla Gazi, Faruk Sardar,

and Rajib Molla, are residents of various parts of North 24-Parganas district. Police suspect the weapons were sourced from the eastern state of Bihar and were to be sold locally. A case has been filed under the Arms Act, and investigators are probing whether the accused are part of a larger trafficking network. The operation came hours after the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) issued an intelligence-based advisory prompting the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to enforce a five-tier security protocol at the airport.

Surveillance has been increased using AI-driven monitoring tools, and perimeter checks have been intensified with 24/7 coordination involving national security agencies. Meanwhile, a separate high-value robbery in central Calcutta raised further concerns about urban security. On Friday, police arrested

five individuals linked to the daylight theft in cash from a foreign exchange firm employee. The money was stolen from a taxi en route to a state-run bank, with assailants intercepting the vehicle and fleeing with the cash. The central home ministry has warned state governments of heightened risks amid growing geopolitical tensions with Pakistan. Home minister Amit Shah has reportedly empowered chief secretaries to enforce emergency security protocols. In West Bengal, which shares a long international border with Bangladesh, top state officials have rolled out enhanced checks across all districts. The state's home secretary and chief secretary are said to be supervising the deployment of additional police personnel and coordinating inter-agency operations to prevent potential sabotage or terror-linked activities.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

11 MAY 2025

Airport cargo under CISF lens

**AMIYA KUMAR
KUSHWAHA**

New Delhi: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) will temporarily supervise cargo operations and in-line hold baggage screening systems (ILHBSS) at the civil airports to strengthen aviation security amid the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan.

A spokesperson for the paramilitary force on Saturday said the move had been initiated following a directive issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) on Friday, PTI reported.

The directive authorises the CISF to conduct random checks and oversee access control to these "critical facilities".

All the airports under

the cover of the CISF have "already implemented" the new strengthened system, the spokesperson said.

The new arrangement, aimed at introducing a crucial secondary layer of security checks, will be in place till May 18, the spokesperson said.

Before this arrangement, the CISF was only tasked with frisking passengers and their cabin baggage.

Cargo and ILHBSS checking was done by private security staff engaged by the airlines and airport operators.

"The enhancement of CISF's mandate is essential to reinforce security arrangements at all civil airports," the spokesperson said.

He said the CISF had responded immediately and resumed "oversight" over cargo and baggage operations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

Cancellations, delays continue at IGIA, 247 flights affected

New Delhi: Flight operations at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport continued to be impacted on Sunday, with over 150 flights delayed and 97 flights cancelled.

An airport official confirmed that of the total cancelled flights, 44 were domestic arrivals and 52 were domestic departures. However, only one international flight—from Delhi to Tel Aviv—was cancelled on Sunday.

According to FlightRadar24, a live flight tracking website, more than 150 flights were delayed at IGI Airport, with the average delay being 15 minutes.

The disruptions follow the launch of Operation Sindoor on Wednesday, which led to airspace restrictions and affected flight operations. Currently, 32 airports across the country are closed, leading to the cancellation of domestic flights scheduled to operate from these airports. On Saturday, 60 domestic flights were cancelled, and over 200 flights were delayed.

With enhanced security at the airport, airlines are advising passengers to arrive at least three hours prior to departure.

In a statement issued on Sunday, IGI Airport said, "Delhi Airport is operating normally. However, due to changes in airspace dynamics and increased security measures, some flight schedules and security checkpoint processing times may be affected." The airport advised passengers to follow hand baggage and check-in luggage regulations, allow extra time for security checks due to heightened measures, and cooperate with airline and security personnel for smooth facilitation. Passengers were also urged to check the latest flight status through their airline or the IGIA official website. 198



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

FAA: Newark flights hit again due to telecom issue

Washington: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said on Sunday that a new telecommunications issue at the facility that guides aircraft at Newark Liberty International Airport forced the agency to briefly slow aircraft in and out of the airport.

The Philadelphia Terminal Radar Approach Control suffered a new problem that briefly led FAA to issue a ground stop while it ensured redundancies were working as designed. FAA said operations have returned to normal. On Friday, the Philadelphia facility suffered a 90-second radar and telecommunications outage, the second in two weeks after a serious outage on April 28.

The latest incidents highlight the air traffic control network's ageing infrastructure and come after transportation secretary Sean Duffy Thursday proposed spending billions of dollars to fix it over

the next three to four years.

Newark Liberty, just outside New York City, has also been hit by runway construction, FAA equipment outages and air traffic control staffing shortages that prompted urgent calls from lawmakers for investigations and new funding. Some controllers took stress leave after the April 28 outage.

Late on Friday, FAA said it plans to meet with major airlines on Wednesday about potential temporary cuts in flights at Newark to address the recent major disruptions. Duffy reiterated in an interview that aired Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that flights need to be scaled back. "We're having these glitches in the system. So we slow it down and keep people safe. That's what we do," Duffy said, pledging quick upgrades to Newark. "We're going to start to see Newark be far more resilient in the near term." REUTERS



Sean Duffy



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No immediate resumption of flights from 32 airports: Mantri

Pune: Junior minister for civil aviation, Murlidhar Mohol, on Sunday said commercial flights from 32 airports in north India will not start operations immediately, reports **Joy Sengupta**.

"The situation must become normal first. Airports will commence commercial flight operations after that. Right now, the situation is not normal, & ceasefire violations have happened. As and when normalcy returns, airports will be opened for regular flights in phases," Mohol told **TOL**.

At present, the 32 airports are not operational and Centre said they will resume operations from May 15. These airports, which include Chandigarh, Amritsar, Leh, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jammu, Jodhpur, Ludhiana, Pathankot, Patiala, Porbandar, and Shimla, were closed down in phases starting May 9, as tensions with Pakistan escalated.

"It is hard to say whether they will resume operations from May 15. The situation has to get normal first. Presently, there are no tourists stuck anywhere. Delhi airport is operational with heightened security measures," the minister said. Travel company officials said in some sectors connecting to Delhi, airfares are expected to spike.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

JAIPUR

11 MAY 2025

**दुबई की फ्लाइट शाम को संचालित होगी,
कुल्लू की 1, चंडीगढ़ की 2 फ्लाइट रद्द**

जयपुर | जयपुर एयरपोर्ट पर एक इंटरनेशनल फ्लाइट के शेड्यूल में बदलाव किया गया है। एयरपोर्ट से मिली जानकारी के अनुसार एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस एयरलाईंस ने दुबई फ्लाइट के समय में बदलाव किया है। जिसके तहत फ्लाइट संख्या आईएक्स-195 अब जयपुर से शाम 5 बजे रवाना होगी। अभी तक ये फ्लाइट सुबह 5:30 दुबई जाती थी। एयरलाईंस द्वारा अगले कुछ दिनों के लिए फ्लाइट समय में बदलाव किया है। हालांकि यात्रियों को फ्लाइट के शेड्यूल में बदलाव की सूचना मैसेज के जरिए दी गई है। उधर, शनिवार को जयपुर एयरपोर्ट से कुल्लू और चंडीगढ़ की तीन फ्लाइट रद्द रहीं। इसमें अलायंस एयर की सुबह 8:25 बजे कुल्लू की फ्लाइट 9आई-805, इंडिगो की सुबह 9:10 बजे चंडीगढ़ की फ्लाइट 6ई-7718 और शाम 7:50 बजे वाली फ्लाइट 6ई-7414 शामिल हैं।

Flyers readjust timings after airlines issue travel advisory

Advisory says passengers have to arrive 3 hours prior to departure of flight

SABA ANJUM SHAIK | DC
HYDERABAD, MAY 10

With airlines issuing advisories to passengers to arrive at least three hours prior to departure of their flights due to heightened security situations, flyers at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) are readjusting their routines.

Preeti Sinha, a software engineer and frequent flyer, said, "It's a good precaution. Usually people reach two hours early, but with the current situation, reaching three hours before makes sense. The gates close 75 minutes before departure now, so the margin for error is less. Travel companies are also supporting us with real time alerts and help if evacuations are needed."

For some, the added wait time is not a hassle but an opportunity. Ajay Malhotra said, "I usually arrive two hours early anyway. This

HEIGHTENED SECURITY AND SCREENING

AIRLINES advise passengers to arrive three hours early amid heightened security, but RGIA officials say crowding isn't a major concern.

MEANWHILE, major airlines like IndiGo, Spicejet and Air India late on Friday extended the cancellation of several flights to and from northern India like

SRINAGAR, JAMMU, LEH, AMRITSAR AND CHANDIGARH, DHARAMSHALA, RAJKOT, JODHPUR until 5.29 am of May 15.



doesn't change much. After check-in, I explore the airport, get a coffee or just catch up on work. And honestly, if I come late and there's an issue with my check-in, I'm the one who will suffer. So I prefer being early."

Sneha who was flying to Bengaluru, said, "I thought there would be chaos at the airport with everyone com-

ing early, but it was actually calm. I had enough space in the waiting area."

While the terminals may see more early arrivals, RGIA officials say crowding isn't a major concern right now.

There hasn't been much rush because many flights, especially those to and from the north have been cancelled. "The overall

A CISF official said security checks are now more thorough, with an extra hand baggage screening before boarding, as more passengers arrive early under the current advisory.



operations are smooth inside the terminal," an official said.

However, security has been tightened at various airports. A CISF official said, "We have seen more passengers arriving well before time. Given the current advisory, our security checks are more thorough. Apart from the standard screening, there is now an

additional hand baggage check before boarding."

The early arrival advisory seems to be more about precaution than panic. Flyers are cautious and are choosing to follow the advisory.

Meanwhile, major airlines like IndiGo, Spicejet and Air India late on Friday extended the cancellation of several flights to and from northern India like Srinagar, Jammu, Leh, Amritsar and Chandigarh, Dharamshala, Rajkot, Jodhpur until 5.29 am of May 15. It was not clear if the orders would be rescinded following the announcement of a ceasefire.

Earlier, flight operations to the affected regions were cancelled until 5.29 am of May 10. Passengers scheduled to travel to or from the affected cities are advised to check their airline's website or contact customer support for latest updates.



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DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

37 उड़ानों में हुई देरी, 97 को किया रद्द

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय (आइजीआइ) एयरपोर्ट पर रविवार को भी उड़ानों के संचालन में व्यवधान देखा गया। रविवार को कुल अंतरराष्ट्रीय समेत 37 उड़ानों में विलंब रहा। वहीं, अगर आपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद बंद किए गए 10 शहरों की उड़ानों की बात की जाए, तो ऐसी 96 उड़ानों समेत 97 उड़ानों का रद्द किया गया।

रविवार को 16 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के प्रस्थान में देरी हुई और सात उड़ानों के आगमन में विलंब हुआ और एक उड़ान को रद्द किया गया। वहीं, घरेलू उड़ानों की बात करें तो 14 उड़ानें यहां से देरी से उड़ीं और 52 उड़ानें रद्द हुईं। आगमन में कोई विलंब नहीं हुआ, लेकिन 44 उड़ान रद्द हुईं।

16 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के प्रस्थान में रविवार को देरी हुई और सात उड़ानों के आगमन में विलंब हुआ और एक उड़ान को रद्द किया गया



आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट • जागरण अर्काइव

आपरेशन सिंदूर के शुरू होने के बाद से आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट से 10 शहरों की उड़ानों को रद्द किया गया है। इसके अलावा उड़ानों में रोज विलंब भी हो रहा था। रविवार को आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर विलंब की संख्या में थोड़ी कमी देखी गई। यह युद्धविराम के बाद एयरस्पेस में आंशिक स्थिरता का संकेत हो

सकती है। फिलहाल एयरपोर्ट पर संचालन सामान्य है, लेकिन यात्रियों को सलाह दी गई है कि वे सुरक्षा जांच के लिए अतिरिक्त समय लेकर आएँ। दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) ने एडवाइजरी जारी कर कहा कि सुरक्षा जांच और एयरस्पेस की बदलती परिस्थितियों के कारण कुछ उड़ानें प्रभावित हुईं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

12 MAY 2025

हवाईअड्डे से आने-जाने वाली 100 उड़ानें रद्द

नई दिल्ली, प्र.सं। दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से रविवार को आने-जाने वाली 100 से ज्यादा उड़ानें रद्द रहीं। इनमें घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय दोनों उड़ानें शामिल हैं। एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन का मानना है कि अगले एक से दो दिनों में विमानों की उड़ान सामान्य हो सकती है।

जानकारी के अनुसार, दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से पिछले पांच दिनों से लगातार विमान सेवाएं बाधित हो रही हैं। दिल्ली से अमृतसर, लेह, जम्मू, श्रीनगर, चंडीगढ़, भुज आदि के लिए उड़ान भरने वाले विमानों की यात्रा को फिलहाल रद्द कर दिया गया है। भारत

सरकार की ओर से 30 से ज्यादा एयरपोर्टों पर विमान परिचालन बंद किया गया है, जिसकी वजह से वहां के लिए विमान उड़ान नहीं भर रहे हैं और न ही वहां से कोई विमान जा रहा है। इसकी वजह से लगातार दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर भी विमानों से बाधित हो रही हैं।

रविवार को दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट की तरफ से यात्रियों को बताया गया कि वह किसी भी प्रकार की देरी या विमान रद्द होने से संबंधित जानकारी एयरलाइंस से ले सकते हैं। एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों को अतिरिक्त समय लेकर पहुंचने की सलाह दी गई है, ताकि सुरक्षा जांच में किसी प्रकार की बाधा न आए।

Fliers fearful, airfares see 50% plunge

SANJAY MANDAL

Calcutta: Airfares to several domestic destinations dropped sharply as passengers became wary of travel in the past few days.

Tour operators and airlines had begun to hope the demand would go up after Saturday evening's ceasefire announcement, but this was short-lived amid fears of renewed tensions between India and Pakistan.

As the demand for seats in several sectors, particularly northern and western India, from Calcutta dropped sharply over the last few days because of the closure of several airports and air routes and a general apprehension in the minds of passengers, fares dropped in some sectors by more than 50 per cent, said travel industry sources.

On Saturday evening, the average one-way fare to Delhi for Monday was around ₹5,500. The fare is usually around ₹10,000. The average one-way fare for Mumbai on Monday was around ₹6,000. It is usually around ₹12,500.

The average one-way fare from Calcutta to Hyderabad on Monday was around ₹7,000. The price is usually ₹9,000, said sources.

Officials of the Calcutta airport said the passenger footfall in the domestic sector had decreased in the past few days.

On May 9, around 26,600 passengers arrived in Calcutta, and around 25,000 took flights out of the city. The average footfall at the Calcutta airport had crossed over 30,000 in each direction, said an official.

Four domestic flights to destinations like Srinagar, Chandigarh and Amritsar stayed cancelled on Saturday because those airports were closed, the official said.

"Even in sectors like Delhi and Mumbai, except for essential travel, many have cancelled their journeys or deferred their plans. This has forced the fares down," said Anil Punjabi, national committee member, Travel Agents Federation of India, representing the eastern region.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 ►

Airfares plunge by 50 per cent

► FROM PAGE 8

Airline officials said they were expecting the demand to rise within a week. But this was when the ceasefire had been announced.

Sources in IndiGo said most flights between Calcutta and Delhi had barely 50 per cent occupancy.

"Due to security reasons, until airports reopen, IndiGo stands committed to supporting its customers during this time. We understand the uncertainty this situation may have caused and want to assure you that our team is here to help," IndiGo said in a statement on Saturday.

"Change and cancellation fees are being waived for bookings made during this period. If customers were scheduled to fly into or out of the impacted airports, they may now choose

to travel from or to another nearby airport without any additional charges. This flexibility is available across our network for eligible bookings. We are also planning to operate relief flights to support stranded passengers and will share updates as these plans are confirmed," the airline said.

A city businessman who travelled to Bengaluru, Hyderabad and then to Delhi on May 6 and returned to Calcutta on May 8 said security measures had been beefed up at all airports. This had led to an increase in waiting time in the queues, he said.

"Each hand baggage is checked twice at the security-check counters. Also, frisking is being done twice, and each time it is taking more time," the businessman said.



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THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

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18 flights cancelled due to airport closures

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: A total of 18 flights—nine arrivals and nine departures—were cancelled at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) airport in Ahmedabad on Saturday due to airport closures in several cities. According to airport sources, the cancelled outbound flights included one each to Srinagar, Jodhpur, Keshod, Amritsar, Bhuj, Kishangarh and Belgaum, and two to Chandigarh. Corresponding inbo-

und flights from these destinations were also cancelled.

The cancellations come at a time when a high volume of passengers is travelling for the weekend and during the peak summer holiday season, prompting concerns over airport operations.

In an official advisory, SVPI airport authorities confirmed that Ahmedabad airport remains fully operational. However, they cautioned passengers that enhanced security protocols could result in longer wait times.