



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW

12 AUGUST 2025

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## Process for Lko airport runway expansion begins

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE**

■ Lucknow

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The groundwork has begun for the much-anticipated expansion of the runway at Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport at Amausi from the current length of 2,744 metres to 3,500 metres.

The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has written to the district administration for acquisition of 57 acres of land required for the project.

A senior district administration official said that preliminary communication had been established with the AAI to determine the precise gata numbers – the official land plot identifiers – for the required area.

"At present, we are awaiting their detailed specifications. Any department that needs land must provide the exact gata numbers along with the total area required in an official written request. Only after receiving this can, we initiate the land acquisition process," the official explained. He added that once the gata numbers are confirmed, the administration will determine the compensation to be offered to the land owners. The preferred approach is direct registry, with the farmers' consent to avoid lengthy procedures.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

## स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर बढ़ी एयरपोर्ट और मेट्रो स्टेशन पर सुरक्षा

नई दिल्ली। स्वतंत्रता दिवस के दौरान आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर आतंकी हमला की आशंका को देखते हुए केंद्रीय सुरक्षा एजेंसी सीआईएसएफ ने यहाँ की सुरक्षा बढ़ा दी है। सीआईएसएफ की ओर से कहा गया है कि सुरक्षा जांच के दौरान ज्यादा समय लग सकता है, इसलिए एयरपोर्ट और मेट्रो स्टेशन पर आने वाले यात्री समय से पहले इन जगहों पर पहुंचें।

हाल ही में केंद्रीय सुरक्षा और खुफिया एजेंसियों के साथ-साथ विमानन सुरक्षा नियामक ब्यूरो आफ सिविल एविएशन सिब्योरिटी एयरपोर्ट ने संभावित खतरे का अलर्ट जारी

किया था। इसके बाद सीआईएसएफ ने आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट के साथ साथ दिल्ली मेट्रो के सभी स्टेशनों पर सुरक्षा बढ़ा दी है।

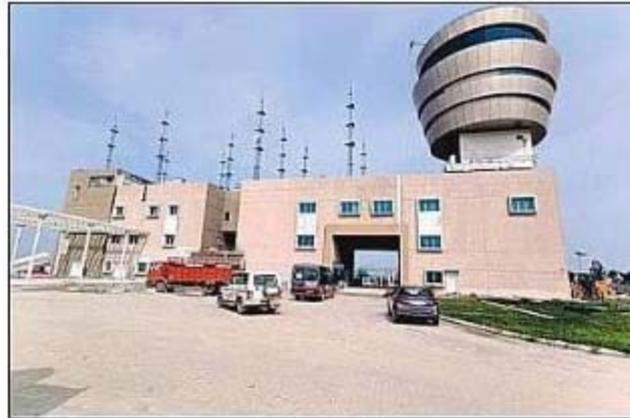
इन जगहों पर अतिरिक्त सुरक्षा बल को तैनात कर दिया गया है। सीआईएसएफ का कहना है कि स्वतंत्रता दिवस जैसे राष्ट्रीय त्योहार पर सतर्कता और निगरानी बढ़ा दी गई है। इन जगहों पर आने वाले यात्रियों और उनके सामानों की गहनता से जांच की जा रही है। जिसमें काफी समय लग रहा है। ऐसे में एंटी गेट पर भीड़ बढ़ सकती है और लोगों को सुरक्षा जांच में थोड़ा ज्यादा वक़्त लग सकता है। ब्यूरो

## नोएडा एयरपोर्ट : टर्मिनल में एक साथ 10 विमानों में सवार हो सकेंगे यात्री एशिया के सबसे बड़े एयरपोर्ट से बोर्डिंग के लिए सात गेटों का कार्य पूरा

संदीप वर्मा

यमुना सिटी। नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल पर एक साथ 10 विमानों में यात्री सवार हो सकेंगे। टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग में बोर्डिंग के लिए सात गेट बनकर तैयार हो गए हैं। तीन गेट पर फिनिशिंग का कार्य चल रहा है।

इसके अलावा टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग के हेड हाउस और इमारत के अंदर निर्माण कार्य को भी अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है। दावा है कि टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग का कार्य नवंबर तक पूरा कर लिया जाएगा। एशिया के सबसे बड़े हवाई अड्डे से कुछ माह बाद जहाज उड़ान भरेंगे। टर्मिनल के हेड हाउस और डायमंड कट शोप वाली छत के निर्माण कार्य को अंतिम रूप दिया जा रहा है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के पहले चरण में 1327 हेक्टर क्षेत्र में यात्रियों के लिए टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग और हवाई पट्टी बननी थी। अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों वाली 3900 मीटर की हवाई पट्टी बनकर तैयार है। हवाई अड्डे का टर्मिनल इतना बड़ा है कि एक साथ 10 विमानों को खड़ा किया जा सकता है। इन 10 विमानों में एक साथ यात्री बोर्डिंग कर सकते हैं। नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे



निर्माणाधीन नोएडा एयरपोर्ट पर बना एटीसी टावर। स्रोत : एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन

### टर्मिनल के हेड हाउस पर चल रहा कार्य

हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल में हेड हाउस का निर्माण कार्य छोड़कर अन्य इमारत का कार्य पूरा कर लिया गया है। हेड हाउस में ही यात्रियों का वॉटिंग एरिया, बोर्डिंग पास लेने के लिए मशीनें, लाउंज, रेस्त्रां आदि होते हैं।



एयरपोर्ट के आखिर में बने बड़े-बड़े क्लिंकर्स। स्रोत : एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन

बनने से केवल पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश समेत आस-पास के जिलों के लोगों ही नहीं हरियाणा के फरीदाबाद को भी फायदा होगा।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BANGALORE MIRROR

BANGALORE

12 AUGUST 2025

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## Reach airport early

**K**empegowda International Airport (BLR) has urged passengers to reach the airport early during the Independence Day week, citing an expected surge in travellers and heightened security measures. Authorities warned that passenger processing could take longer in August, and advised travellers to plan their journey with ample time for security checks. The advisory comes as the airport prepares for one of the busiest travel periods of the year, aiming to ensure smooth operations and minimise inconvenience for passengers.

— BMB



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

12 AUGUST 2025

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### **BLR Airport advises flyers to arrive early on Aug 15**

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** The Kempegowda International Airport has advised passengers taking a flight on August 15 to arrive early, as the airport authorities are expecting a surge in passenger volumes.

Increased security for Independence Day might also delay passenger processing, the airport authorities said. "Owing to the high security measures in August, there may be delays in passenger processing at BLR Airport. Passengers are advised to plan their travel to the airport to allow sufficient time for security checks," the airport authorities said.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

12 AUGUST 2025

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### **Uber launches premium pickup zones at KIA**

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Ride-hailing firm Uber has set up dedicated pickup zones for its premium cab services — Uber Comfort and Uber Black — at the Kempegowda International Airport.

Riders booking Uber Black and Uber Comfort from the Bengaluru airport will get dedicated pickup zones at both terminals, on-ground staff assistance, water dispensers, charging stations, and a helpdesk kiosk, among other facilities, Uber said.

## CHOKED EXIT COSTS PASSENGERS, DRIVERS EXTRA IN PARKING FEES

# Flyers pay for T2 exit delays at SVPI

Niyati.Parikh  
@timesofindia.com

**Ahmedabad:** The ongoing expansion and upgradation work at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport's Terminal 2 (T2) is testing the patience of passengers and those ferrying them. With international flights and select domestic operations handled from T2, the terminal sees heavy footfall round the clock. However, a temporary traffic arrangement has turned routine drop-offs and pick-ups into a bottleneck nightmare.

Currently, the city-side approach to T2 has a single entry and a single exit point for both private and commercial vehicles. While entry is relatively smooth, the shared exit for vehicles dropping off departing passengers and those picking up arrivals has become the biggest choke point.

"The airport operator offers a 10-minute grace period in which no parking fee is charged. But with long, slow-moving queues at the exit, we often find ourselves overshooting the limit and paying for delays not of our making," said an entrepreneur from Ahmedabad. The problem is compounded by the fact that the exit has toll booths where tickets collected on entry must be shown or paid against.

Of the four booths, commuters say only one is opera-

### What is the solution?

**A**ccording to airport sources, the infrastructure upgradation and ongoing construction work at the city airport has compelled the airport operator to only operate a single exit for both arrivals and departures of T2. The construction work is underway, and once completed, there will be separate exit tolls for cars going out from the arrival and departure side of the terminal, significantly reducing the congestion, said a source. "Separate entry and exit points are being planned to ease congestion for passengers," a source told TOI.



“Even if you reach the exit in time, you can get stuck in a long queue as the system is slow and cash transactions take longer. Not all exit points work, making the process cumbersome”

**Ankit Bajaj** | A TRAVEL EXPERT

“Delays at T2 exits are caused by a lack of separate lanes for Fastag and cash payments. Since only a few booths are open, queues move slowly, making the 10-minute grace period for pickups unrealistic”

**Rahil Subedar** | A COMPANY DIRECTOR



“In theory, the 10-minute grace period for pickups is fine, but congestion at T2 makes it hard to meet. This often leads to Uber drivers demanding extra charges from passengers for the exit fees”

**Bhavin Thaker** | BUSINESSMAN



tional most of the time. "Entry into the airport is easy, but exit is cumbersome. You can never make it out in 10 minutes as not all booths are open. There is no separate queue for Fastag vehicles and others who are making cash payments. The parking space is also very cramped at the international terminal," said Rahil Subedar, director of a company.

Passengers report the situation is particularly grim during late-night hours, when the bulk of international flights operate, and during certain daytime slots when domestic flights add to the load. The integrated nature of T2's operations means traffic peaks are unpredictable, and with the current single-exit arrangement, even minor sur-

ges trigger a snarl-up.

Until the expansion work is complete and normal traffic flow restored, commuters say they will continue to face serpentine queues, frayed tempers, and unexpected charges for what should have been a short stop. An email query sent to Adani International Airports Limited (AIAL) went unanswered.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

12 AUGUST 2025

■ Fleet shortfall, Pak space closure key reasons

## AI announces suspension of its Delhi-Washington flights

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, AUG. 11

Air India on Monday announced the suspension of its services between Delhi and Washington, DC, effective from September 1 due to a combination of operational factors.

The suspension is primarily driven by the planned shortfall in Air India's fleet, as the airline commenced retrofitting 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft last month.

This extensive retrofit programme necessitates a prolonged unavailability of multiple aircraft at any given time until at least the end of 2026.

That, coupled with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan, impacts the airline's long-haul operations, leading to longer flight routings and increased operational complexity, the airline

said in a statement. Air India said customers with bookings to or from Washington beyond September 1 will be contacted and offered alternative travel arrangements, including rebooking on other flights

and offered alternative travel arrangements, including rebooking on other flights or full refunds, as per their individual preferences.

Air India customers will continue to have the options of one-stop flights to Washington via four US gateways — New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago, and San Francisco — with the airline's interline partners Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air

Lines, allowing customers to travel on a single itinerary with their baggage checked through to the final destination, the airline added.

Air India will continue to operate non-stop flights between India and six destinations in North America, including Toronto and Vancouver in Canada.

Air India will be upgrading the avionics and other critical components of the B787-8 aircraft up to the latest industry standards, thus improving their reliability.

The programme entails the analysis of maintenance and configuration records for these aircraft followed by the implementation of recommended modifications based on Boeing's service information bulletins.

Starting in early 2027, Air India will additionally retrofit 13 of its Boeing 777-300ER aircraft.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

12 AUGUST 2025

## IndiGo CarGo eyes time-sensitive, high-value sectors for global growth

**Rohit Vaid**  
New Delhi

Airline major IndiGo's cargo arm, IndiGo CarGo, is ramping up its presence in the global logistics market by focussing on high-value, time-sensitive consignments on the recently launched long-haul flight operations to Europe, a senior company executive told *businessline*.

IndiGo CarGo's Chief Commercial Officer Mark Sutch said the airline sees strong demand in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, electronics, textiles, express parcels, fashion and textiles, and automotive parts.

"Cargo operations on long-haul routes deal with a whole new mix of consignments where demand is driven by goods that are high in value, time-sensitive, or not feasible to ship by sea due to their urgency or limited shelf life," he said.

According to Sutch, the launch of long-haul operations marks a "significant milestone" for the airline, backed by the induction of Boeing 787-9 aircraft and expansion into European destinations, including Manchester and Amsterdam.

Last month, IndiGo launched direct flights from Mumbai to Manchester and Amsterdam, and plans to operate to new destinations such as London and Copenhagen this winter.

Besides, the airline is preparing for expansions with its new Airbus A321XLR aircraft. "With long-haul capabilities, we are now able to tar-



IndiGo CarGo COO  
Mark Sutch

**The launch of long-haul operations marks a 'significant milestone' for the airline, backed by induction of Boeing 787-9 and expansion into Europe**

get skidded and palletised cargo, further enhancing our operational flexibility and appeal to global shippers."

### NEW OPPORTUNITIES

These additions, he noted, not only extend the airline's reach but also enable specialised logistics services and create new opportunities for Indian businesses to connect with global markets.

"IndiGo CarGo is on an upward trajectory, as we look forward to commencing operations across several inter-

national routes, in sync with the airline's ambitious expansion strategy," said Sutch.

### DEALS SIGNED

Furthermore, the airline's growth push is further supported by cargo interline agreements with major logistics players such as Air France-KLM and FedEx, along with a recent partnership with Lufthansa Cargo to carry US-bound freight via a transpacific route linking Dhaka, Ho Chi Minh City and Los Angeles.

Looking ahead, he cited that the planned induction of Airbus A350 aircraft in 2027 is expected to further expand capacity and efficiency.

"Our outlook is strong and forward-looking, driven by consistent volume growth, strategic partnerships and ongoing investments in digital transformation and infrastructure."

IndiGo CarGo commenced operations in November 2022, with its first A321 freighter flight between Delhi and Mumbai.

### HYBRID MODEL

The airline uses a hybrid cargo model, combining the belly capacity of its passenger aircraft with dedicated freighters. In FY25, IndiGo completed over 2,500 cargo flights, transporting more than 4 lakh tonnes of cargo, outgrew domestic market growth and increased volumes by 10 per cent on a year-on-year basis (from FY24). International tonnage was up by 36 per cent for the same period.

## Air India to suspend service between Delhi and Washington

**Rohit Vaid**  
New Delhi

Tata Group-backed Air India will suspend services between Delhi and Washington DC from next month due to a shortfall in widebody aircraft availability, along with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan.

According to Air India, the suspension will take effect from September 1. The airline said it is primarily driven by the shortfall in fleet as Air India commenced retrofitting 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft last month.

"This extensive retrofit programme, aimed at significantly enhancing customer experience, necessitates a prolonged unavailability of multiple aircraft at any given time until at least the end of 2026," the airline said.

"That, coupled with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan, impacts the airline's long-haul operations, leading to longer flight routings and increased operational complexity."

### PLAN B FOR TRAVEL

According to Air India, passengers with bookings to or from Washington DC beyond September 1 will be contacted and offered alternative travel arrangements.

Meanwhile, Air India has started a phase wise restoration of its international schedule from August 1 following the Safety Pause triggered by the June 12 crash.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## **Akasa Air plans to start Mumbai-Phuket flights**

**New Delhi:** Akasa Air will launch direct flights connecting Mumbai with Phuket from September 20 as the three-year-old airline expands its international network with a foray into South-East Asia. With a fleet of 30 planes, the airline currently flies to 23 domestic and five international destinations. PH



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

## Regulator issues show-cause notice to IndiGo over use of non-qualified simulators

**Rohit Vaid**  
New Delhi

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a show-cause notice to airline major IndiGo, over observations regarding the training of its pilots.

Accordingly, the regulator raised concerns over the use of "non-qualified" flight simulators during the training of approximately 1,700 pilots.

Besides, the notice highlights the use of unqualified simulators in specific airfield training modules.

As per DGCA's findings, non-qualified simulators were employed in training sessions related to operations at critical and high-risk airports, including Kozhikode, Leh and Kathmandu.

### DEFICIENCIES FOUND

Notably, these airfields are known for their challenging terrain and weather conditions, making simulator accuracy and regulatory compliance critical.

Furthermore, DGCA's in-



spectations uncovered technical and compliance deficiencies in a total of 20 flight simulators used by IndiGo.

These simulators are located across several key cities—namely Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Greater Noida, Gurugram and Bengaluru.

The deficiencies have prompted the regulator to take immediate action, industry sources told *businessline*.

### NOTICE ISSUED

Meanwhile, the notice issued to IndiGo mandates a formal response within 14 days.

DGCA has made it clear that failure to respond within the stipulated time-

frame could result in unilateral enforcement measures, potentially affecting the airline's pilot training operations.

IndiGo, in a statement, has confirmed receipt of the

show-cause notice.

The airline stated that it intends to respond within the prescribed period, assuring full cooperation with the regulatory authority in addressing the concerns raised.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

12 AUGUST 2025

OPINION

## Tapping the frequent flyers

While Air India jumped on the FFP bandwagon in 1994, it was Jet Airways that set the standard



AMBI PARAMESWARAN

With Indians constantly on the move, hotel chains are deploying a common strategy: tap into the growing number of frequent air travellers," said a story in this newspaper (*Business Standard*, July 28, 2025).

The concept of frequent-flyer programme (FFP) was pioneered by American Airlines with its AAdvantage Frequent Flyer programme, launched in May 1981. In India, we had Air India jumping on the bandwagon in 1994. As far as I am concerned, it was Jet Airways that set the standard. While most FFPs focused on providing free miles to be redeemed for future travel, Jet Airways did a lot more. It offered, in addition to mileage points, generous upgrade vouchers to its FFP programme members (Platinum tier); the airline also allowed flight changes without any extra fees — a feature I think about whenever I am made to pay an extra ₹1,700 to get on to an Indigo flight that departs 90 minutes earlier.

My first exposure to the linkage between air travel and hotel bookings was around the year 1998. I was flying from Mumbai to Kochi and as soon as my flight landed, I got an SMS alert on my mobile phone about a special offer from a Kochi hotel (this was before mobile inter-

net became a part of our common currency). I was piqued and later found that BPL Mobile was partnering with hotels in various cities to alert them about potential customers.

All brands want to get a larger share of your wallet. Be it an airline or a hotel, or even a candy company. Recently in California, I discovered that the brand See's Candies ran a very interesting loyalty programme. Often loyalty programmes give you a straight 2 per cent or 3 per cent discount in the form of points. See's Candies offered a lot more. But the brand wanted you to work hard for it. The programme was administered through a loyalty card. The card had seven months indicated (May to November). When you bought candies worth \$40 or more, you got a gold sticker on your card. If you bought \$40 worth or more for three months, you got a \$20 reward; if you did this for seven months, you got a \$50 reward (a whopping 18 per cent reward). Interestingly, the programme takes a break during the peak candy-buying season of December/January. See's Candies is one of the gems that Warren Buffett spotted and invested in in 1972. Warren Buffett's investment in See's Candies has delivered great returns: since acquiring the company for about \$25 million, See's Candies has generated over \$2 billion in pre-tax earnings for Berkshire Hathaway. Outperforming the broader indices, I suppose the company is so successful because it is constantly trying to widen and deepen its customer base.

Airlines have been at the forefront of tapping the frequent flyers potential. But they also come under scrutiny for exploiting customers in uniquely different ways. I was given a window to this in an article that I read recently (*Economist*,

July 26, 2025). The article says that some American airlines charge customers differential prices depending on the number of tickets they buy. Analysing 19,000 prices across 3,200 routes (in the US), it was found that the price you are offered may not be the same if you booked one or two tickets. A single traveller paid anything in the range of 5 per cent to 19 per cent more (depending on the sector). While Delta did not practise the variable pricing strategy, the article says that American Airlines and United were seen to charge more. However, this practice was abandoned after travel writers got wind of this. The worst thing happened. All airlines just hiked their two-ticket charges.

Hotels and airlines are perfectly positioned to work on each other's frequent-user lists. Travellers will be nudged by airlines to book at a hotel where the airline has a tie-up. In a reciprocal way, hotels will push airlines that are with them. In that sense, Air India and Taj Hotels could enjoy a vibrant partnership. But just pushing FFPs and offering discounts may not get you more profits (check out my article "What is the price of loyalty", published in *Business Standard* on October 25, 2018). It is important to tailor your FFP and hotel loyalty programmes to ensure greater stickiness and interest in using additional value-added services. This way the customer will get something extra, and the travel sector, hotels and airlines (may be taxi companies, tour guides, etc.) will benefit more by reducing their cost of customer acquisition. Win Win Win.

Ambi Parameswaran is the author of 12 bestselling books. His latest book "Marketing Mixology" presents four essential ingredients for marketing success



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## Show-cause notice served to IndiGo over simulator training lapses

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a show-cause notice to IndiGo for alleged lapses in simulator training conducted for nearly 1,700 pilots, according to sources. The sources on Tuesday said the show cause notice was issued after scrutiny of records and replies received from the airline last month. IndiGo said it is in the process of reviewing the show cause notice. The aviation regulator found that Category C or critical airfield training for around 1,700 pilots, including pilots in command and first officers, was conducted with non-qualified simulators, the sources said. Meanwhile, IndiGo will commence four weekly flights each from Mumbai to Tashkent and Almaty in September, introducing new overseas routes. PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## इंडिगो को नोटिस: 1,700 पायलटों की ट्रेनिंग गड़बड़

मुंबई। विमानन नियामक डीजीसीए ने इंडिगो एयरलाइंस को कारण बताओ नोटिस भेजा है। यह नोटिस करीब 1,700 पायलटों की सिम्युलेटर ट्रेनिंग में गड़बड़ी को लेकर भेजा गया है। डीजीसीए ने एयरलाइन से पिछले महीने मिले रिकॉर्ड की जांच के बाद यह कदम उठाया है। इंडिगो ने कहा है कि वह नोटिस की समीक्षा कर रही है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

12 AUGUST 2025

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## **AIRBUS RECOGNISES GMR AVIATION COURSE**

**DC CORRESPONDENT**  
HYDERABAD, AUG. 11

GMR School of Aviation and its basic aircraft maintenance engineering training programme has been officially recognised by Airbus

Maintenance Training Central MTO. This endorsement confirms that the school's Basic Maintenance Training Organisation and its associated programme meet Airbus's stringent standards, said a release.

## पांच सांसदों का एअर इंडिया पर विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघन का आरोप

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : कांग्रेस के महासचिव के.सी. वेणुगोपाल सहित पांच सांसदों ने मंगलवार को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला को पत्र लिखकर एअर इंडिया पर सांसदों के विशेषाधिकार का उल्लंघन करने का आरोप लगाया। सांसदों ने तिरुअनंतपुरम दिल्ली आ रही उड़ान को चेन्नई ले जाने की घटना मामले में विशेषाधिकार उल्लंघन के लिए एअर इंडिया पर कार्रवाई की मांग की। सांसदों ने नागरिक उड़्डयन मंत्री राममोहन नायडू को भी पत्र लिखकर घटना की तत्काल जांच की मांग की।

वेणुगोपाल ने दोनों पत्रों को टैग करते हुए कहा, तिरुअनंतपुरम से दिल्ली की उड़ान में हमें जो अनुभव हुआ, वह एअर इंडिया, डीजीसीए और नागरिक उड़्डयन मंत्रालय के लिए एक और चेतावनी है ताकि वे उन गंभीर समस्याओं पर ध्यान दें, जिनके कारण ऐसी गंभीर घटनाएं होती हैं।

सांसदों कोडिक्कुनिल सुरेश, अदूर प्रकाश, राबर्ट ब्रूस और के. राधाकृष्णन के साथ, हमने एअर इंडिया की ओर से विशेषाधिकार हनन के संबंध में लोकसभा अध्यक्ष को पत्र लिखा है।

गौरतलब है मौसम रडार में सांद्र घुंखराबी के कारण तिरुअनंतपुरम से दिल्ली जा रही एअर इंडिया की उड़ान एआइ 2455 की रविवार देर रात चेन्नई हवाईअड्डे पर आपातकालीन लैंडिंग

लोकसभा अध्यक्ष को पत्र लिखकर की कार्रवाई की मांग

नागरिक उड़्डयन मंत्री से भी तत्काल जांच कराने का आग्रह



के.सी. वेणुगोपाल।

फाइल/एएनआइ

करानी पड़ी थी। इस विमान में पांच सांसद भी सवार थे।

बिरला को लिखे पत्र में सांसदों ने कहा, एअर इंडिया द्वारा 'विशेषाधिकार के गंभीर उल्लंघन' से जुड़े मामले की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहते हैं, जो उड़ान संख्या एआइ 2455 में हुई घटना से संबंधित है। उड़ान के दौरान हुई परेशानी को हमने इंटरनेट मीडिया के जरिये बर्खा किया। इन वैध चिंताओं का समाधान करने के बजाय, एअर इंडिया ने सार्वजनिक बयानों में सांसदों को बदनाम करने का प्रयास किया।

बता दें कि एअर इंडिया की उड़ानों में सुविधाओं की त्रुटियों की शिकायतें इन दिनों आम हो गई हैं।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

12 AUGUST 2025

## 16 सितंबर से दिल्ली की नियमित उड़ान!

जागरण संवाददाता, कानपुर: दिल्ली की नियमित उड़ान 16 सितंबर से शुरू हो सकती है। इंडिगो ने 16 जून से इसे सप्ताह में तीन दिन कर दिया था। अब भी शहरवासियों को तीन दिन ही उड़ान की सुविधा मिल रही है। सांसद रमेश अवस्थी ने इस मामले पर उड़डयन मंत्री को पत्र लिखा था। उनका दावा है कि दिल्ली की उड़ान 16 सितंबर से नियमित हो जाएगी।

15 जून तक दिल्ली की उड़ान सप्ताह में सातों दिन मिलती थी। 16 जून से 30 जून तक नए शेड्यूल में दिल्ली की उड़ान सप्ताह में तीन दिन ही कर दी थी। भरपूर लोड मिलने पर तकनीकी दिक्कत की बात कहते हुए विमानन कंपनी ने सप्ताह में तीन दिन ही दिल्ली की



कानपुर हवाई अड्डा • जागरण आर्काइव

उड़ान का फैसला लिया था। 30 जून तक के पुराने शेड्यूल में बुधवार, शुक्रवार और रविवार को दिल्ली की उड़ान की सुविधा मिल रही थी। एक जुलाई से जारी नए शेड्यूल में बेंगलुरु की उड़ान को भी सोमवार, मंगलवार, गुरुवार और शनिवार कर दिया गया था। नए शेड्यूल में भी दिल्ली की उड़ान को तीन दिन ही

**16** जून से सप्ताह में तीन दिन कर दी गई थी यह विमान सेवा

- 16 जून से तीन दिन ही मिल पा रही उड़ान की सुविधा
- सांसद ने उड़डयन मंत्री को लिखा था पत्र, मिला आश्वासन

रखा गया था। अभी तक दिल्ली की उड़ान बुधवार, शुक्रवार और रविवार को ही मिल रही है। सांसद ने बताया कि उड़डयन मंत्री ने 16 सितंबर से उड़ान नियमित करने को कहा है। हवाई अड्डा निदेशक संजय कुमार ने बताया नया शेड्यूल 16 सितंबर से लागू होगा। इसमें दिल्ली की उड़ान नियमित होने की उम्मीद है।

## एक सितंबर से निलंबित रहेंगी एअर इंडिया की दिल्ली से वाशिंगटन की उड़ानें

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : एअर इंडिया की दिल्ली-वाशिंगटन उड़ानें एक सितंबर से निलंबित रहेंगी। इसकी मुख्य वजह बोइंग 787 ड्रीमलाइनर विमानों की अनुपलब्धता है, क्योंकि पुराने विमानों के बेड़े में नवीनीकरण का काम चल रहा है। इसके अलावा पाकिस्तानी हवाई क्षेत्र बंद होने के चलते भी यह फैसला लिया गया है। टाटा समूह के स्वामित्व वाली एयरलाइन वर्तमान में दिल्ली से वाशिंगटन के लिए सप्ताह में पांच उड़ानें संचालित करती हैं। इसके लिए ड्रीमलाइनर विमानों का उपयोग किया जाता है।

एअर इंडिया ने कहा कि यह निलंबन कंपनी के बेड़े में विमानों की अस्थायी कमी से किया जा रहा है। एयरलाइन ने पिछले महीने 26 बोइंग 787-8 विमानों की रेट्रोफिटिंग (नया व उन्नत बनाना) की प्रक्रिया शुरू की है। यह एक बड़ा और विस्तृत कार्यक्रम है, जिसका मकसद यात्रियों के अनुभव को बेहतर बनाना है। इसे देखते हुए कई विमान लंबे समय तक सेवा से अनुपलब्ध रहेंगे। यह स्थिति कम-से-कम 2026 के अंत तक बनी रहेगी। इसके साथ ही पाकिस्तान का हवाई क्षेत्र लगातार



### विमान का नहीं खुला दरवाजा, फंसे रहे यात्री

नईदुनिया प्रतिनिधि, रायपुर : दिल्ली से रायपुर पहुंची एअर इंडिया की उड़ान एआइ 2797 का दरवाजा नहीं खुलने के कारण लगभग 160 यात्री एक घंटे तक विमान के अंदर ही फंसे रहे। यह घटना रविवार रात 8.15 बजे दिल्ली से उड़ान भरने के बाद रात 10.05 बजे रायपुर में लैंडिंग के बाद हुई। यात्री 11.00 बजे तक विमान के अंदर ही रहे। यात्रियों के अनुसार प्रारंभ में केबिन क्रू ने कोई स्पष्ट जानकारी नहीं दी, जिससे उनमें असुरक्षा की भावना बढ़ गई। स्थिति तब और बिगड़ गई, जब विमान के अंदर बिजली आपूर्ति में भी रुकावट आई।

बंद रहने से एअर इंडिया की लंबी दूरी की उड़ानों पर असर पड़ता है। इससे उड़ानों को लंबा मार्ग तय करना पड़ता है और उड़ानों का संचालन जटिल हो जाता है।

### 'रडार समस्या के कारण चेन्नई ले जाया गया एअर इंडिया का विमान'

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : विमानन नियामक डीजीसीए ने सोमवार को कहा कि रविवार को तिरुअनंतपुरम से दिल्ली आ रही एअर इंडिया की उड़ान को मौसम रडार में संदिग्ध खराबी के कारण चेन्नई ले जाया गया। नागरिक उड़्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने कहा कि आशंका है कि मौसम रडार की खराबी के कारण इसे चेन्नई की ओर मोड़ा गया। तिरुअनंतपुरम से दिल्ली जा रही एअर इंडिया की उड़ान की रविवार देर रात चेन्नई हवाईअड्डे पर आपातकालीन लैंडिंग कराना पड़ी थी। विमान में कांग्रेस महासचिव केशी वेणुगोपाल समेत पांच सांसद सवार थे।

वेणुगोपाल ने कहा था कि जब एअर इंडिया की उड़ान एआइ2455 ने लैंडिंग का प्रयास किया गया, तो रनवे पर पहले से अन्य विमान था। इस कारण एक बार लैंडिंग रोकनी पड़ी। चक्कर लगाने के बाद दूसरे प्रयास में सफल लैंडिंग हुई।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

## चीन के बीच सीधी उड़ान सेवा जल्द बहाल होने की उम्मीद

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। भारत और चीन के बीच कोविड महामारी के बाद से निलंबित सीधी उड़ान सेवाएं जल्द बहाल हो सकती हैं। सूत्रों ने मंगलवार को बताया कि दोनों देशों के बीच बातचीत महत्वपूर्ण दौर में है।

सूत्रों के मुताबिक, एयर इंडिया को उड़ान सेवाओं की संभावित बहाली के बारे में सूचित कर दिया गया है। कोविड-19 महामारी के बाद 2020 में भारत और चीन के बीच सीधी उड़ान सेवाएं निलंबित कर दी गई थीं। जून 2020 में पूर्वी लद्दाख की गलवान घाटी में दोनों सेनाओं के बीच हुई घातक झड़पों के बाद हवाई संपर्क निलंबित रहा।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि भारतीय और चीनी वार्ताकार उड़ान सेवाओं को फिर से शुरू करने के लिए हवाई सेवा समझौते पर विचार कर रहे हैं। मोदी की चीन यात्रा से पहले सकारात्मक कदम यह घटनाक्रम प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की इस महीने के अंत में शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के सम्मेलन में भाग लेने के लिए चीन की संभावित यात्रा से पहले हुआ है।



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## एयर इंडिया पर विशेषाधिकार हनन का आरोप लगाया

नई दिल्ली। कांग्रेस सांसद के. सी. वेणुगोपाल सहित पांच सांसदों ने तिरुवनंतपुरम-दिल्ली उड़ान को चेन्नई डायवर्ट किए जाने की घटना को लेकर मंगलवार को लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला को पत्र लिखा।

सांसदों ने एयर इंडिया द्वारा कथित विशेषाधिकार हनन के लिए कार्रवाई की मांग की। वेणुगोपाल सहित पांच सांसद इसी उड़ान से यात्रा कर रहे थे। वेणुगोपाल व सांसद के. सुरेश, अदूर प्रकाश और रॉबर्ट ब्रूस ने भी केंद्रीयमंत्री राममोहन नायडू को पत्र लिख घटना की तत्काल जांच की मांग की।

# Turbulence, aborted landing scare fliers on diverted Air India aircraft

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Weather turbulence, a suspected malfunction in the weather radar of the aircraft, 90 minutes of circling over an alternative airport, and an aborted landing – Congress MP K.C. Venugopal and several other parliamentarians were among over 100 passengers on an Air India Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight (AI 2455) late on Sunday night that saw a series of nerve-racking moments.

“Shortly after take-off, we were hit by unprecedented turbulence. About an hour later, the Captain announced a flight signal fault and diverted to Chennai. For nearly two hours, we circled the airport awaiting clearance to land, until a heart-stopping moment during our first attempt – another aircraft was reportedly on the same runway,” Mr. Venugopal wrote on X about his flight. The aircraft landed



**We were hit by unprecedented turbulence. The plane was diverted to Chennai where it circled the airport for two hours. During attempt to land, another aircraft was reportedly on the same runway**  
K.C. VENUGOPAL, Congress MP

**The plane saw moderate turbulence, it circled over to burn extra fuel. Suspected debris was seen by a prior flight on runway. Safe landing was done on second attempt - DGCA STATEMENT**

safely in the second attempt.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) responded with a detailed statement, rejecting the claim that landing was aborted because of another aircraft on the runway.

### ‘Saved by luck’

The MP said they had been saved by “skill and luck”, and called upon the DGCA to investigate the matter.

The flight tracking website Flightradar 24 showed

that the aircraft took off from Thiruvananthapuram at 8.17 p.m. nearly an hour behind schedule and circled over the Chennai airport for 90 minutes.

The DGCA said in a statement that the delayed departure was due to the late arrival of the aircraft from Delhi in poor weather. As the pilots suspected a weather radar malfunction, the flight was diverted to Chennai. The aircraft encountered moderate turbulence.

The aircraft circled over the airport to burn fuel before attempting a landing. While approaching the runway, the pilots were instructed by the air traffic control to abort landing because a previous flight had reported suspected debris on the runway.

The statement said an inspection of the runway did not find anything untoward and thereafter the aircraft was given clearance for landing.

### Safe landing

A safe landing was carried out the second time at 10.39 p.m.

Air India’s engineering team found no deficiency in the weather radar, but as a precautionary measure, replaced its transreceiver, it said.

Air India said in a statement that all the affected passengers were accommodated on alternative flights to Delhi and the aircraft involved in the incident had resumed commercial operations.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

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13 AUGUST 2025

## DGCA notice to IndiGo over lapses in training 1.7k pilots

**Neha LM Tripathi**

[letters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:letters@hindustantimes.com)

**NEW DELHI:** India's aviation regulator has issued a show-cause notice to IndiGo for using "non-qualified simulators" to train pilots operating to three challenging airports, citing scrutiny of records and email replies from the airline.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation notice, issued on Monday and seen by HT, found that "Category C (Critical) airfield training for flight crew" was conducted using simulators not approved for

specific airports as required under Civil Aviation Rules. It found that about 1,700 IndiGo pilots received training on simulators that lacked the required approval to prepare them for flights to Leh, Kozhikode and Kathmandu. These destinations are classified as "critical" airports, meaning they present special flying challenges that require specific, certified training equipment. Issues were recorded across 20 simulators—two each in Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad, five each in Greater Noida and Gurugram, and four in Bengaluru.

### What DGCA said

It found that about 1,700 IndiGo pilots received training on simulators that lacked the required approval to prepare them for flights to Leh, Kozhikode and Kathmandu.

### Why these airports matter

These three destinations are classified as "critical" airports, meaning they present special flying challenges that require specific, certified training equipment.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

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{ EFFORTS TO NORMALISE RELATIONS } AHEAD OF PM'S CHINA VISIT

## India, China may soon start direct flights, border trade

**Rezaul H Laskar and  
Neha LM Tripathi**

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**NEW DELHI:** India and China are in advanced negotiations on resuming direct flights and trade through selected border posts as part of efforts to normalise their relations after the end of the four-year military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

There has also been "forward movement" on restrictions imposed by China on fertiliser

**THERE HAS ALSO BEEN 'FORWARD MOVEMENT' ON RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY CHINA ON FERTILISER EXPORTS TO INDIA**

exports to India, the people said. The latest indications of the thaw in bilateral relations come ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's expected visit to China to attend the Shanghai

Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit on August 31. The resumption of direct flights and border trade – both suspended since 2020 – figured in several meetings held since Modi and President Xi Jinping met in Russia's Kazan on October 23, 2024.

The modalities for resuming direct flights, including the finalisation of an updated air services agreement, are yet to be completed, though Indian carriers have been asked by authorities to begin preparing to fly to China as early as next month, the people said.

→P8

# India, China likely to resume direct flights

Rezaul H Laskar and  
Neha LM Tripathi

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**NEW DELHI:** India and China are in advanced negotiations on resuming direct flights and trade through selected border posts as part of efforts to normalise their relations after the end of the four-year military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

There has also been "forward movement" on restrictions imposed by China on fertiliser exports to India, the people said on condition of anonymity. The latest indications of the thaw in bilateral relations come ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's expected visit to China to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit on August 31.

The resumption of direct flights and border trade – both suspended since 2020 – figured in several meetings held since Modi and President Xi Jinping met in the Russian city of Kazan on October 23, 2024, two days after an understanding to end the faceoff on the LAC, and decided to revive several mechanisms to normalise relations and address the border dispute.

External affairs minister S Jaishankar raised China's restrictions on fertiliser exports when he met his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Beijing last month, the people said. At the time, Jaishankar said the two sides should build on "good progress" in normalising ties by avoiding "restrictive trade measures" and addressing issues related to the border.

The modalities for resuming direct flights, including the finalisation of an updated air services agreement, are yet to be completed, though Indian carriers have been asked by authorities to begin preparing to fly to China as early as next month, the people said. One option being considered is the resumption of flights without updating the air services agreement, they said.

Authorities have asked IndiGo to start preparing for flights, hinting at the resumption of air



PM Narendra Modi and  
Chinese President Xi Jinping

connectivity with China, at least two officials with knowledge of the development said. "In an internal communication, the ministry of civil aviation asked IndiGo to start making arrangements for resuming India-China flights," one of the officials said.

However, the people acknowledged that lack of adequate aircraft is a factor that is being considered by Indian authorities.

Non-stop flights to China stopped during the Covid-19 pandemic and this continued after border skirmishes between Indian and Chinese troops in April-May 2020 took bilateral ties to a six-decade low. Both sides arrayed close to 50,000 troops each in Ladakh sector of the LAC before the understanding last October on disengagement of forces at the two remaining "friction points" of Demchok and Depsang.

Before this, Air India, IndiGo, Air China, China Southern and China Eastern operated direct flights. IndiGo and Air India didn't comment on the development, and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) didn't respond to a request for comment.

The resumption of border trade through the designated points of Lipulekh pass in Uttarakhand, Shipki La in Himachal Pradesh and Nathu La in Sikkim figured in recent meetings between the two sides, the people said. Trade through these routes was stopped in 2020. Minister of state for external affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh told Rajya Sabha in a written reply to a question last week that India has "engaged with the Chinese side to facilitate the resumption of border trade through all these

trade routes".

On the issue of China's restriction on fertiliser exports, the people said there had been "forward movement" since the matter was raised by Jaishankar with his Chinese counterpart in mid-July. Bloomberg reported, citing people familiar with the matter, that India, the world's top importer of fertilisers, could take as much as 300,000 tons of urea.

Almost half of China's fertiliser exports in 2023 headed to India, but it halted sales to all countries last year. Beijing relaxed the ban in June but kept its restrictions on India until now. India's imports of urea from China fell to about 100,000 tonnes in 2024-25, compared to 1.87 million tonnes a year ago, according to the Fertiliser Association of India. Last month, India finalised long-term agreements with Saudi Arabia for 3.1 million metric tonnes of DAP fertiliser per annum for five years to cope with the restrictions imposed by China. Di-ammonium phosphate or DAP is the second most widely used crop nutrient in India.

There was no official word from the Indian and Chinese side on these developments, which coincided with substantial strain in India's relations with the US after President Donald Trump imposed a reciprocal tariff of 25% on Indian goods and a punitive tariff of 25% for purchases of Russian crude.

The Indian side has proceeded cautiously in normalising relations with China, with the two sides agreeing in April to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra to the Tibet region for the first time since 2020, and India resuming tourist visas for Chinese nationals in July after a five-year gap.

Efforts to normalise relations, however, hit a bump over China's support to Pakistan during four days of hostilities with India in May after New Delhi launched Operation Sindoor to target terrorist infrastructure across the border in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 civilians in April.

(With inputs from Neeraj Chauhan)



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

# DGCA pulls up IndiGo over improper pilot training

**Neha LM Tripathi**

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**NEW DELHI:** India's aviation regulator has issued a show-cause notice to IndiGo for using "non-qualified simulators" to train pilots operating to three challenging airports, citing scrutiny of records and email replies from the airline.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation notice, issued on Monday and seen by HT, found that "Category C (Critical) airfield training for flight crew" was conducted using simulators not approved for specific airports as required under Civil Aviation Rules.

It found that about 1,700 IndiGo pilots received training on simulators that lacked the required approval to prepare them for flights to Leh, Kozhikode and Kathmandu. These three destinations are classified as "critical" airports, meaning they present special flying challenges that require specific, certified training equipment.

The review showed several Full Flight Simulators used for training, testing or checking used by the airline were not qualified or approved for those specific destinations. Issues were recorded across 20 simulators nationwide — two each in Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad, five

**THE REVIEW SHOWED SEVERAL FULL FLIGHT SIMULATORS USED BY THE AIRLINE WERE NOT QUALIFIED OR APPROVED FOR THOSE SPECIFIC DESTINATIONS**

each in Greater Noida and Gurugram, and four in Bengaluru. All were found unqualified to operate training for the three airports.

"As an approved post holder (director - training) of M/s IndiGo, you were responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable Civil Aviation Requirements. However, it has been observed that you have failed to ensure the use of appropriately qualified simulators for training related to Class III (critical) airports, in violation of the above-mentioned CAR provisions," DGCA said in the notice.

The regulator has given IndiGo 14 days to respond, warning: "Therefore, you are hereby called upon to show cause within 14 days of receipt of this notice as to why action should not be taken against you for the

said lapse under the applicable provisions of the Aircraft Rules and CAR."

DGCA said it would presume the airline had nothing to submit in defence should it fail to respond within the deadline. "Ex parte action shall be initiated against you as per rules," the notice added.

The airline confirmed the notice. "We confirm receipt of a show-cause notice issued by the DGCA pertaining to simulator training of some of our pilots. We are in process of reviewing the same and will respond to the regulator within the stipulated timeline," an IndiGo spokesperson said in a statement.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

12 AUGUST 2025

## Air India to suspend Delhi-Washington flights from Sep 1

### HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Almost two months after Air India's B787 crashed moments after take off from Ahmedabad for Gatwick, Air India announced its flights from Delhi to Washington DC to be suspended from the coming month, attributing the suspension, from September 1 till at least next year end, to a combination of operational factors.

This comes a day after the airline announced a retrofit of their legacy aircraft- B787 and will also upgrade the avionics and other critical components of its

### THE SUSPENSION WAS ATTRIBUTED TO RETROFITTING OF THE AIRLINE'S BOEING 787-8 AIRCRAFT

26 legacy B787-8 Dreamliner aircraft to reduce operational disruptions as well as improve overall reliability.

When Air India had announced the retrofit programme in December 2022, the airline had 27 legacy B787-8 in the fleet. It lost one in the Ahmedabad flight crash in June,

reducing this fleet size to 26.

"The suspension is primarily driven by the planned shortfall in Air India's fleet, as the airline commenced retrofitting 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft last month. This extensive retrofit programme, aimed at significantly enhancing customer experience, necessitates a prolonged unavailability of multiple aircraft at any given time until at least end of 2026," the airline said in a statement.

"That, coupled with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan, impacts the airline's long-haul operations, leading to longer flight routings and

increased operational complexity," it added.

The airline operates five weekly flights between the two places using B787 legacy aircraft. To be sure, since April 24, when Pakistan shut its airspace for Indian registered aircraft, the airline was forced to take a technical halt in Vienna before landing in Washington. The return flight, however, flew non-stop.

The airline clarified that fliers booked to or from Washington, D.C. beyond September 1, 2025 will be contacted and offered alternative travel arrangements, including rebooking on other flights or full refunds, as per

their preferences.

Air India, however, said that it will continue to have the option of one-stop flights to Washington, DC via four US gateways using its interline partners.

"Air India customers will continue to have the options of one-stop flights to Washington, D.C. via four U.S. gateways – New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago, and San Francisco – with the airline's interline partners, Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air Lines, allowing customers to travel on a single itinerary with their baggage checked through to the final destination," it stated.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDU

CHENNAI

12 AUGUST 2025

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## Air India to halt flights to Washington DC from Sept. 1

Air India will stop its flights to Washington DC from September 1, due to a shortage of aircraft as it undertakes retrofitment of its legacy widebody aircraft starting with Boeing 787-8s. Multiple aircraft will remain unavailable over a prolonged period until at least the end of 2026, according to a statement from Air India. The retrofitment of the 787s is expected to conclude by June 2027. The airline will continue flight services to New York, Newark, Chicago and San Francisco.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

**DELHI-BOUND FLIGHT DIVERTED TO CHENNAI**

## 5 MPs claim 'breach of privilege' by A-I in letter to Speaker, seek probe

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12

FIVE MPs, including Congress's K C Venugopal, wrote to Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday over "serious safety and procedural lapses" during a Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight they were travelling in, and demanded action on alleged "breach of privilege" by Air India.

Venugopal, his Congress colleagues K Suresh, Adoor Prakash and Robert Bruce, and CPI(M)'s K Radhakrishnan also wrote to Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu and demanded an investigation. He said the incident should "serve as yet another wake up call for Air India, DGCA and the Civil Aviation Ministry" to address "glaring lapses that result in such grave incidents".

"Air India's response to our concern was to label them as false — which is an attempt at discrediting MPs who are raising genuine concerns regarding safety of air travel. Have written to the Hon'ble Speaker regarding this Breach of Privilege on part of Air India," Venugopal said.

In its response Monday, Air said its pilots were "well-trained to handle such situations, and in this case, they followed standard procedures throughout the flight".

Detailing the incident, Venugopal said he was among hundreds of passengers on the Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight AI 2455 on August 10, 2025, scheduled for departure at 7.15 pm but eventually taking off around 8.30 pm citing late arrival of the incoming aircraft.

"From the outset, the journey was marked by prolonged turbulence. Passengers were instructed to remain strapped in... Midway through the flight, the pilot announced a critical technical fault — failure of the weather radar — and declared that the aircraft would be diverted to Chennai. This raised immediate concerns since other airports such as Bengaluru and Coimbatore were closer to our location at the time," he said.

Air India Monday said the flight diverted to Chennai Sunday followed protocols and the first landing attempt had to be aborted due to suspected foreign debris presence on the runway.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025



Family members of Air India plane crash victims in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. *Express*

## AI plane crash: US attorney, kin of victims join candlelight vigil

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 12

FAMILY MEMBERS of Air India plane crash victims on Tuesday participated in a candlelight vigil at the site of the tragedy in Meghaninagar area of Ahmedabad to mark two months since the deadly aviation disaster.

US-based aviation attorney Mike Andrews, who is in Gujarat to meet the kin of the deceased, also participated, said his media coordinator, Kuldip Israni.

"Andrews and 20 to 25 family

members of the air crash victims, including passengers and those killed on the ground, participated in the candlelight vigil in memory of the victims," said Israni.

Andrews, on August 8, announced that at least 65 families from India and the United Kingdom, who lost their kin in the horrific tragedy on June 12, have hired US-based law firm Beasley Allen, with which he is associated as an aviation attorney. Andrews had told reporters in Vadodara that the families have an option of filing a product liability claim in a US court,

depending on the findings of the ongoing investigation.

On June 12, Air India's Boeing 787-8 aircraft en route to London Gatwick crashed into a medical hostel complex shortly after taking off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport and burst into flames, killing 241 out of 242 people onboard and 19 individuals on the ground, including four medical students. During the last week, Andrews met family members of several victims in Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Surat and neighbouring Diu.

## मुंबई से दो नई सप्ताहिक उड़ान सितंबर से शुरू करेगी इंडिगो

- [www.goIndiGo.in](http://www.goIndiGo.in) या मोबाइल ऐप के माध्यम से बुकिंग कर सकते हैं

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्या। देश की सबसे बड़ी विमान सेवा कंपनी इंडिगो ने अपने अंतरराष्ट्रीय संपर्क को मजबूत करने का ऐलान किया है। इंडिगो ने सितंबर में मध्य एशियाई देशों के लिए मुंबई से दो नई उड़ानें शुरू करने की घोषणा की है। ये उड़ानें सितंबर से उज्बेकिस्तान की राजधानी ताशकंद और कजाकिस्तान के शहर अल्माटी के लिए होंगी।

एयरलाइंस ने मंगलवार को एक बयान में बताया कि वह 01 सितंबर से उज्बेकिस्तान की राजधानी ताशकंद और 02 सितंबर से कजाकिस्तान के अल्माटी के लिए



मुंबई से सीधी उड़ानें शुरू करेगी। इंडिगो की ये दोनों उड़ानें सप्ताह में चार दिन होंगी। एयरलाइंस ने यह घोषणा हाल ही में मुंबई-त्बिलिसी (जॉर्जिया) मार्ग पर इंडिगो की 02 अगस्त से सीधी उड़ान के शुभारंभ के बाद की गई है, जो भारत की वित्तीय राजधानी से संपर्क को मजबूत करने और इसे एक प्रमुख विमानन केंद्र के रूप में विकसित करने की एयरलाइंस की प्रतिबद्धता को पुष्ट करती है।

इंडिगो के ग्लोबल सेल्स प्रमुख विनय मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि नई दिल्ली से त्बिलिसी, अल्माटी और ताशकंद के लिए सफल संचालन के आधार पर अब हमें इन सभी गंतव्यों को मुंबई से जोड़ने की खुशी है। उन्होंने कहा कि हाल ही में हमने मुंबई से मैनचेस्टर और एम्स्टर्डम के लिए अपनी लंबी दूरी की उड़ानें भी शुरू की हैं, जो यूरोप में हमारे प्रवेश का प्रतीक है। मल्होत्रा ने कहा कि इंडिगो देश

की वित्तीय राजधानी से भारत के भीतर और साथ ही दुनियाभर के गंतव्यों के लिए कनेक्टिविटी को और मजबूत करेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें उम्मीद है कि ग्राहक भारत की पसंदीदा एयरलाइंस के साथ मुंबई से दुनिया के विभिन्न हिस्सों के लिए उड़ान भरने का आनंद लेंगे। ये नए लॉन्च ग्राहकों को इंडिगो के साथ एक व्यापक नेटवर्क पर अपनी छुट्टियों की योजना बनाने का सही अवसर प्रदान करते हैं।

इंडिगो ने कहा कि शुरू होने वाली उड़ान की टिकट विक्री के लिए उपलब्ध हैं। इसके लिए ग्राहक हमारी आधिकारिक वेबसाइट [www.goIndiGo.in](http://www.goIndiGo.in) या हमारे मोबाइल ऐप के माध्यम से बुकिंग कर सकते हैं।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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MINT

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## IndiGo bets big on aviation startups

India's largest airline, IndiGo, is expanding far beyond flying through its corporate venture capital arm, IndiGo Ventures. The new entity is zeroing in on aviation and allied startups to grow the airline's ecosystem and keep pace with emerging innovations.

"It gives us early visibility and foresight into the innovations startups are pursuing and, where possible, allows early deployment of those ideas into the IndiGo ecosystem," Neetan Chopra, founder and director of IndiGo Ventures, told *Mint* in an exclusive interaction.

Established in August 2024, the ₹450 crore fund was designed to bridge the gap between the slower pace of large corporations and the agile, rapid funding cycles typical of startups, said Ankit Sharma, managing partner at IndiGo Ventures, who was also present at the interaction.

IndiGo Airlines anchors the fund with a ₹300 crore commitment, while other group entities and founders have contributed ₹150 crore.

SAKSHI SADASHIV



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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MINT

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## IndiGo gets notice over training lapses

**A**viation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a show cause notice to IndiGo for alleged lapses in simulator training conducted for nearly 1,700 pilots, according to sources.

The sources on Tuesday said the show cause notice was issued after scrutiny of records and replies received from the airline last month.

IndiGo said it is in the process of reviewing the show cause notice.

The DGCA found that Category C or critical airfield training for around 1,700 pilots, including pilots in command and first officers, was conducted with non-qualified simulators, the sources said.

According to the sources, the regulator found that the simulators on which the nearly 1,700 pilots did their training were not qualified for operations at certain airports like Calicut, Leh and Kathmandu.

PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

## Safety concerns: Aviation ministry to hold monthly meeting with airlines

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

IN a bid to enhance safety for flyers and to improve their travel experience, the Ministry of Civil Aviation will hold a monthly review meeting with the leading airlines in the country, said a senior aviation official. The recent spate of incidents involving different

Airlines seem to have prompted the decision. The first such meeting took place on August 5 in Delhi with Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu reviewing the safety measures of different airlines for the six months between January 1 and June 30 this year. "Henceforth, the review will be every month," the official added.

"It was made very clear that passenger safety needs to be the No. 1 priority with complete transparency and accountability needed from the airlines on this front. The Ministry will keep an eye on the crew training and maintenance of aircraft by all to ensure there are no lapses in any kind," a source privy to the meeting said.

Senior employees from Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo, Spicejet and Akasa made detailed presentations on multiple aspects of their flight operations, he said. The respective chiefs of the Safety, Operations and the Engineering teams of the airlines took part.



### DGCA issues show-cause notice to IndiGo

The DGCA has issued a show cause notice to IndiGo on Tuesday on lapses pertaining to simulator training for nearly 1,700 pilots in connection with a few specific airports which have challenging terrain and different runway conditions, a source said. Air India Express had also recently received a similar notice in connection with the simulator training it offered for the Calicut International Airport. IndiGo has been given a deadline of 15 days to respond to it, the source added. Critical airfield training or C category training rendered to pilots on regular simulators would not be suitable for the airports of Kathmandu, Leh and Calicut because of the complicated terrain involved which require precise approaches, he said.

"The presentation made by the airlines touched upon the significant findings during their internal audits and action taken, the operational, technical, runway incursion and excursion incidents experienced by them and the mitigation action taken, the training status of staff concerning safety management system and the status of compliance with airworthiness directives bulletins among other aspects," the aviation official said.

The number of fatigue re-

ports received from the crew and the issues they raised, the organisation's strength in terms of aircraft, the training status of staff in terms of the safety management system was also revealed by the airlines.

Surging ticket fare prices by the airlines, a frequent complaint by passengers, and the need to redress the issue were key aspects touched upon during the meeting. It also discussed the need to improve amenities provided to passengers in the case of delays.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

12 AUGUST 2025

## Air India suspends Delhi-DC Flights from Sept 1 due to plane shortage and airspace constraints

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE**  
New Delhi

Tata Group-owned Air India has announced the suspension of its direct flights between Delhi (DEL) and Washington, DC (IAD) starting September 1, 2025.

The airline cited a combination of operational constraints, ongoing aircraft retrofits and the continued closure of Pakistani airspace as key factors behind the decision.

The move marks a strategic recalibration in Air India's transatlantic services, as the carrier grapples with long-haul route complexities amid a major fleet upgrade program and geopolitical restrictions.

According to an airline spokesperson, "This combination has made the Delhi to Washington route unsustainable in its current form."

The airline's decision comes at a time when 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft are undergoing extensive retrofitting. The program, which began in July 2025 and is expected to continue through late 2026, involves upgrading cabin interiors, seats, and in-flight systems to enhance passenger experience. However, the process also means a significant number of aircraft will be grounded for extended periods.

Adding to the pressure is the continued closure of Pakistani airspace to Indian carriers, which has forced Air India to operate longer routes to North America. These detours increase flight times, fuel costs, and overall operational complexity—particularly problematic for ultra-long-haul services such as Delhi to Washington. Passengers booked on affected flights after September 1 will be contacted directly by Air India.



FILE PHOTO

Washington route, Air India maintains that North America remains central to its long-term international strategy.

The airline will continue to operate non-stop flights to and from: New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago (ORD), San Francisco (SFO), Toronto (YYZ), Vancouver (YVR).

These routes are expected to continue as part of Air India's core transcontinental network. The suspension of the Delhi-Washington route may be temporary, but it underscores the complex challenges faced by Air India as it modernizes its fleet and navigates evolving geopolitical dynamics.

While the move may cause short-term disruption for travellers, it also reflects the airline's broader efforts to enhance service quality, reliability, and efficiency under the Tata Group's leadership. As the retrofit program progresses and the airspace situation evolves, a reassessment of the route could be expected. For now, the airline's message is clear: while the direct link is paused, its presence in North America remains strong.

A deadly crash involving a Dreamliner 787 was reported in Ahmedabad in June this year, resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives. An investigation is currently underway.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA		
Sr. No.	NAME OF Department	NAME OF WORK NOTD
1	PWD BAR, HARYANA	SPECIAL REPAIR OF GOVT. VETERINARY DISP AND DISTT.
2	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA, ROHTAK	REMODELING OF BHAWANI SUB BRANCH
3	NOTAL NEHRU SCHOOL OF SPORTS, RAJ, SONBET	SUPPLY OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

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PIONEER NEWS SERVICE  
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FILE PHOTO

as Delhi to Washington. Passengers booked on affected flights after September 1 will be contacted directly by Air India.

The airline is offering rebooking options on alternative US routes, full refunds, or one-stop itineraries via major gateway cities such as New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago (ORD), and San Francisco (SFO).

Thanks to interline agreements with US carriers including Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air Lines, travelers will be able to complete their journey to Washington, DC, under a single booking with through-checked baggage.

Despite the suspension of the Washington route, Air India maintains that North America remains central to its long-term international strategy.

The airline will continue to operate non-stop flights to and from: New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago (ORD), San Francisco (SFO), Toronto (YYZ), Vancouver (YVR). These routes are

expected to continue as part of Air India's core transcontinental network. The suspension of the Delhi-Washington route may be temporary, but it underscores the complex challenges faced by Air India as it modernizes its fleet and navigates evolving geopolitical dynamics.

While the move may cause short-term disruption for travellers, it also reflects the airline's broader efforts to enhance service quality, reliability, and efficiency under the Tata Group's leadership.

As the retrofit program progresses and the airspace situation evolves, a reassessment of the route could be expected. For now, the airline's message is clear: while the direct link is paused, its presence in North America remains strong.

A deadly crash involving a Dreamliner 787 was reported in Ahmedabad in June this year, resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives. An investigation is currently underway.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

## दिल्ली-मुंबई से जोड़ा जाए 'हमीरगढ़ से शुरू हो हवाई सेवा'

पत्रिका ब्यूरो  
patrika.com

नई दिल्ली. भीलवाड़ा सांसद दामोदर अग्रवाल ने मंगलवार को लोक सभा में हमीरगढ़ हवाईपट्टी पर क्षेत्रीय उड़ान योजना के तहत हवाई सेवा शुरू करने की मांग रखी। अग्रवाल ने नियम 377 के तहत बताया कि भीलवाड़ा स्थित हमीरगढ़ हवाईपट्टी को सरकार की ओर से उड़ान दस्तावेज में असेवित हवाईपट्टियों की सूची में शामिल किया गया है। क्षेत्रीय उड़ान योजना के अंतर्गत हवाईसेवा शुरू करने के लिए 5 चरण पूरे होने तक आर.सी.एस. उड़ानों के परिचालन के लिए हमीरगढ़ हवाईपट्टी को जोड़ने वाला कोई भी मार्ग किसी भी एयरलाइन को अवार्ड नहीं किया गया है।

उन्होंने बताया कि वर्ष 2019 में उड़ान 4.0 योजना के दौरान इसके लिए बोलियां प्राप्त हुई थी लेकिन कोविड-19 महामारी के कारण हमीरगढ़ हवाईपट्टी को जोड़ने की



दामोदर अग्रवाल

बोली एयरलाइनों को अवार्ड नहीं की जा सकी। उन्होंने बताया कि भीलवाड़ा बड़ा इंडस्ट्रियल हब है और यहां से बड़ी संख्या में लोगों को हवाई सेवा के लिए 135 किलोमीटर दूर उदयपुर एयरपोर्ट या फिर 250 किलोमीटर दूर जयपुर एयरपोर्ट जाना पड़ता है। उन्होंने मांग की कि क्षेत्रीय उड़ान योजना में हमीरगढ़ हवाई पट्टी से दिल्ली मुंबई अहमदाबाद सहित प्रमुख शहरों को हवाई सेवा शुरू की जाए।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

12 AUGUST 2025

## Air India cites technical issue as reason for diversion of Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight to Chennai

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 11 AUGUST

A day after Delhi-bound flight made an emergency landing at the Chennai airport, Air India on Monday clarified that Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi Air India flight, carrying passengers including five MPs, was diverted to Chennai as a "precautionary measure" after the pilot detected a suspected technical issue and in view of the weather conditions en route to the national capital.

The airlines further said the decision was taken in the "best interest" of the safety of the passengers and crew.

Flight AI 2455, which took off from Thiruvananthapuram, had among its passengers, four MPs from Kerala - Congress General Secretary K C Venugopal, UDF Convenor Adoor Prakash, senior Congress leader Kodikunnil Suresh, and K Radhakrishnan - along with Tamil Nadu MP Robert Bruce.

In a fresh statement, Air India spokesperson said, "Air

India clarifies that flight AI2455 of 10 August operating from Thiruvananthapuram to Delhi was diverted to Chennai as a precautionary measure after the pilot detected a suspected technical issue and in view of the weather conditions en route to Delhi. It was decided to divert to Chennai instead of Bengaluru as the weather in Chennai was clear. As the aircraft was overweight for an immediate landing the pilot had to hold over Chennai to reduce weight and no emergency was declared. During the first landing approach, the ATC asked the pilots to initiate a go-around as another aircraft that had taken off from the same runway had reported a suspected foreign object debris (FOD) on the runway"

"After following a standard go-around, the flight made a normal and safe landing. We would like to reiterate that the decision to divert to Chennai was taken in the best interest of the safety of our passengers and crew. Our crew are well



→ On 10 August, Air India A320 aircraft VT-TNL was scheduled to operate flight AI2455 (Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi) with a scheduled time of departure as 19:15 IST. Due to the late arrival of aircraft from Delhi, the aircraft departed Thiruvananthapuram at 20:04 IST, i.e. with a total delay of 40 minutes

trained to handle such situations, and in this case, they followed the protocols during the entire flight. All the affected passengers were accommodated on alternate flights to Delhi and the said aircraft has also resumed commercial operations. Air India deeply regrets any inconvenience caused by the diversion and consequent delay," the spokesperson added.

Meanwhile, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) also released a statement on the diversion of Air India flight AI2455 Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi on August 10, following Congress MP KC Venugopal describing it as "frighteningly close to tragedy."

"On 10.08.2025, Air India A320 aircraft VT-TNL was scheduled to operate flight

→ To avoid an overweight landing and burn extra fuel, the aircraft with the ATC clearance orbited 25NM northeast of Chennai for 43 minutes

→ Flight AI 2455, had among its passengers, four MPs from Kerala - Congress General Secretary K C Venugopal, UDF Convenor Adoor Prakash, Sr. Congress leader Kodikunnil Suresh, and K Radhakrishnan - along with TN MP Robert Bruce

AI2455 (Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi) with a scheduled time of departure as 19:15 IST. Due to the late arrival of aircraft from Delhi (Weather Diversion+consequential+commercial), the aircraft departed Thiruvananthapuram at 20:04 IST, i.e. with a total delay of 49 minutes," the statement read.

"During the flight, the aircraft encountered moderate tur-

bulent conditions. Crew observed that the weather information depicted on the weather RADAR was not accurate, suspecting weather RADAR malfunction diverted to Chennai," the DGCA added further in his statement.

"To avoid an overweight landing and burn extra fuel, the aircraft with the ATC clearance orbited 25NM northeast of Chennai for 43 minutes (from 21:25 IST to 22:08 IST).

After the aircraft was cleared for approach Runway 25 at Chennai, at 22:19 IST, the aircraft was instructed to carry out a missed approach by ATC as departing Gulf Air flight GFA053 Chennai-Bahrain) reported debris on the left side of the runway," read the lines of the statement.

The DGCA further said, "Apron control carried out an inspection of the runway, and nothing was observed. The aircraft was given landing clearance and landed safely at 22:39 IST. During the engineering inspection, no defi-

ciency was observed. However, as a precautionary measure, the WX radar transceiver was replaced with a serviceable one." Earlier, in a post on X, Congress MP Venugopal said, "Air India flight AI 2455 from Thiruvananthapuram to Delhi - carrying myself several MPs, and hundreds of passengers - came frighteningly close to tragedy today. What began as a delayed departure turned into a harrowing journey."

"Shortly after take-off, we were hit by unprecedented turbulence. About an hour later, the Captain announced a flight signal fault and diverted to Chennai. For nearly two hours, we circled the airport awaiting clearance to land, until a heart-stopping moment during our first attempt - another aircraft was reportedly on the same runway. In that split second, the Captain's quick decision to pull up saved every life on board. The flight landed safely on the second attempt. We were saved by skill and luck. Passenger safety cannot

depend on luck. I urge @DGCAIndia and @MoCA\_Govt to investigate this incident urgently, fix accountability, and ensure such lapses never happen again."

Air India, in a statement on X, addressing to Venugopal, wrote, "Dear Mr Venugopal, we would like to clarify that the diversion to Chennai was precautionary due to a suspected technical issue and poor weather conditions. A go-around was instructed by Chennai ATC during the first attempted landing at Chennai airport, not because of the presence of another aircraft on the runway. Our pilots are well-trained to handle such situations, and in this case, they followed standard procedures throughout the flight. We understand that such an experience can be unsettling and regret the inconvenience the diversion may have caused to you. However, safety is always our priority. Thank you for your understanding."



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

12 AUGUST 2025

## Air India halts Delhi-Washington flights from 1 Sept



**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 11 AUGUST

Air India on Monday informed that it is suspending its services between Delhi and Washington D.C. from September 1, saying that the suspension is primarily driven by the planned shortfall in Air India's fleet, as the airline commenced retrofitting 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft last month.

"This extensive retrofit programme, aimed at significantly enhancing customer experience, necessitates a prolonged unavailability of multiple aircraft at any given time until at least the end of 2026. That, coupled with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan, impacts the airline's long-haul operations, leading to longer flight routings and increased operational complexity," Air India said in a statement.

The airline, which has been facing numerous issues since the fatal Boeing 787

crash in Ahmedabad on June 12, said the decision is to "ensure the reliability and integrity of Air India's overall route network". Customers with Air India bookings to or from Washington, D.C. beyond September 1, 2025, will be contacted and offered alternative travel arrangements, including rebooking on other flights or full refunds, as per their individual preferences. Meanwhile, Air India customers will continue to have the options of one-stop flights to Washington, D.C. via New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago, and San Francisco – with the airline's interline partners, Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air Lines, "allowing customers to travel on a single itinerary with their baggage checked through to the final destination".

The airline said it will continue to operate non-stop flights between India and six destinations in North America, including Toronto and Vancouver in Canada.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## DGCA notice to IndiGo for lapses in simulator pilot training

**Mumbai:** The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a show-cause notice to IndiGo for allegedly using unapproved simulators to train about 1700 pilots for flight operations to challenging airfields such as Calicut, Leh and Kathmandu, reports **Manju V.**

The DGCA scrutinised simulator training records of IndiGo pilots and found that "Category C (critical) airfield training" was conducted using "non-qualified" simulators, said the show-cause notice issued to IndiGo's director (training) on Aug 11. The airline has to respond to the notice within 14 days.

Category C airfields are those that present unusual challenges during approach to land or departure. They are located in mountainous regions like Leh, Kathmandu or in the hilly south Malabar region in case of Calicut.

IndiGo confirmed the receipt of a show-cause notice issued by DGCA.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

13 AUGUST 2025

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## Five MPs urge Speaker to act against AI over flight diversion

**New Delhi:** Five MPs, including Congress's general secretary, organisation, K C Venugopal, on Tuesday wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla over the diversion of the Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight they were on to Chennai and demanded action on alleged "breach of privilege" by Air India. Venugopal and his party colleagues K Suresh, Adoor Prakash and Robert Bruce, along with CPI(M)'s K Radhakrishnan, also wrote to civil aviation minister Rammohan Naidu.

They have demanded a time-bound investigation and asked that its findings be made public. In their letter to Birla, the five MPs said they wanted to bring to his attention the matter involving a "grave breach of privilege" by Air India, arising from events on Flight AI 2455 on Aug 10. 1/14