



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Airlines, AAI, CISF gear up for launch of Navi Mumbai airport

SET FOR TAKE-OFF. While the airport is set for Sept 30 inauguration, flights will begin a few weeks later

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

Airlines and government agencies, including the Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) are readying themselves for the commercial launch of Navi Mumbai airport.

While the airport is set to be inaugurated on September 30, flight operations will begin a few weeks thereafter following a security sweep of the facilities. Around 150 IndiGo ground staff are said to have applied for internal job postings at the airport. These employees would get a preference over outside hires and the number of new recruits will depend upon the scale of operations. Sep-



SIGNIFICANT CAPACITY. In the first phase, the airport will be able to handle 20 million passengers per year

arate crew and pilots' bases are also being planned.

SLOT BOOKING

IndiGo and Akasa Air have signed memorandum of understanding with Navi Mumbai International Airport Ltd (NMIA) and discussions are underway for slots and office spaces inside the

airport. The airlines did not respond to an e-mail query on staffing. CISF has earmarked 500 personnel for deployment at Navi Mumbai airport and these have been drawn from various airports. Thirty air traffic controllers have been trained and eight have already been posted at the airport. The controllers

at Navi Mumbai will give clearances to ground movements, aircraft pushback, takeoff and landing. Planes ascending and descending into Navi Mumbai will be handled by controllers at Mumbai who will also manage the enroute movements.

ALL GEARED UP

"We are geared up for the operations at Navi Mumbai," an AAI official said.

In the initial phase, the airport is expected to have 12-hour operations (8am to 8pm) and full-fledged operations will commence after a few months. This is being proposed to test the stability of all the processes and systems. In the first phase, the airport will be able to handle 20 million passengers per year. At the current passen-

ger handling capacity, this would translate at 30 air traffic movements per hour. However, in the initial days it is likely to handle only eight to 10 movements per hour.

A NMIA spokesperson said construction of the airport is progressing steadily and approaching completion. The airport's operationalisation will follow mandatory approvals from the regulatory authorities.

"Operational Readiness and Airport Transfer trials are underway to ensure that the airport is in a state of readiness for operations. These trials cover multiple systems and processes and require close co-ordination among stakeholders to validate integration and deliver a seamless experience from day one," he added.

HAL airport to reopen before 2033?

K'taka urges BIAL to issue NOC for commercial flights

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Amid Karnataka's push for a second greenfield airport in Bengaluru, plans are underway to reopen the HAL airport for commercial flights before May 2033, when the exclusivity agreement with the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) expires.

The agreement bars any airport from operating within a 150-km radius of the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). The HAL airport is located in the core city area and was Bengaluru's main airport from 1941 until 2008. At the moment, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) operates small non-commercial flights, including for VVIPs, from the airport.

A recent meeting involving the Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and BIAL discussed plans to expand and reopen the HAL airport.



The HAL Airport in Bengaluru. DH FILE PHOTO

SECOND CHANCE

AAI, Ministry of Civil Aviation, HAL and BIAL recently discussed plans to expand and reopen HAL airport

- K'taka govt has told BIAL that it would bear any losses incurred in reopening
- As part of a 10-year master plan, the AAI has proposed to demolish the existing terminal in 2030 and start building a new one
- As per the plan, the new airport terminal will be expanded in phases

Karnataka Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh has urged BIAL to issue a no-objection certificate (NOC) to allow commercial flights at the HAL airport, assuring that the state government would bear any losses incurred, a senior AAI official told *DH*.

Bangalore South MPL S Tejasvi Surya said Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu is "extremely enthusiastic" about the initiative to reopen the HAL airport for commercial flights.

► HAL, Page 7

Plans afoot to reopen Bengaluru's HAL airport

HAL airport, from Page 1

As part of a 10-year master plan, the AAI has proposed to demolish the existing terminal in 2030 and start building a new one.

"While the airport terminal building belongs to AAI, the land beyond that is defence land. We've had a good relationship with them since the 1940s, and we're in agreement about opening up the HAL airport for commercial use. We want to start the expansion in 2030 and get the new building ready before 2033. There is a possibility of starting commercial operations before the agreement ends if BIAL issues an NOC," the official explained.

As per the master plan, the new airport terminal will be

expanded in phases. "In the first phase, we'll be expanding within the land available, focusing on the basic requirements. Further expansion depends on traffic at the airport and land acquisition," the official said.

The revamped airport will have a seven-floor car parking facility and a commercial complex in addition to lane expansion in front of the terminal.

"It is not confirmed that BIAL will be a part of the revamped airport. Ownership and the operational rights of the airport will likely be put up for auction, and it all depends on who has the highest bid," the official said.

The chief secretary could not be reached for comment. A spokesperson for BIAL declined to comment.

Bangalore South MPL S Tejasvi Surya, who has been vocal about reopening the HAL airport for commercial flights, said he had already met Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu three times. "He is extremely enthusiastic to get this started," Surya said.

"There have also been two meetings between BIAL and the AAI. They are trying to work out the nitty-gritty of the 2033 agreement. The minister has instructed his officials to find the most practical solution in the shortest possible time."

Bangalore Central MP PC Mohan said the ministry had concerns about transit between the KIA and HAL airport. Once these details are sorted, the plan will move ahead.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Hosur airport location identified, says TN CM

To be built on about 2,200 acres between Bagalur and Berigai

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
HOSUR (TN), DHNS

Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday 570 announced that his government has identified a location in Krishnagiri district to build an airport for this burgeoning industrial city, located just outside Bengaluru. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has set in motion the process of identifying and acquiring land for the ambitious project.

Though Stalin did not mention the exact location in his speech at the TN Rising Investment Conclave here, it is believed that the airport will be built on about 2,200 acres between Bagalur and Berigai, northeast of Hosur. *DH* had reported on August 23 that the Tamil Nadu government has chosen Berigai-Bagalur for the Hosur airport, which

is expected to handle about 3 crore passengers a year.

“We are attaching utmost importance to the Hosur airport project. I had announced (on June 27, 2024) that we will build a world-class international airport for Hosur. TIDCO is in the process of identifying and acquiring land near Hosur for the airport. This airport, when commissioned, will put Hosur on a new path of development,” Stalin said at the conclave.

Berigai-Bagalur was chosen as an Obstacle Limitation Surface survey favoured the location over Belagondapalli, where a private airport operated by Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Limited is located.

The two sites were shortlisted from five locations initially studied by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) last year. An exclusive airport for Hosur has been a long-standing demand of industries in the city, who are confident that the project will be successful not only for passenger traffic, but also for freight.

A top government source told *DH* that the location was also chosen due to its proximity

to the Tamil Nadu section of the Bengaluru Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR). The new airport will also be closer to many parts of Bengaluru and is located on the Tamil Nadu-Karnataka border, benefiting people from both states.

The source added that TIDCO and the Krishnagiri district administration are currently preparing the Land Development Plan (LDP) for the project.

“The plan will identify the exact land requirement for the project and methods for acquisition. We require about 2,200 to 2,300 acres. Once this is complete, the plan will be sent to the government for administrative sanction, following which a Government Order (GO) will be issued,” the source said.

“Once the GO is issued, the land acquisition will begin,” another source added, noting that at the same time, TIDCO will also start work on applying for site clearance for the project. The second source said the preliminary work will take about three months, after which land acquisition is expected to start.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

जीएमआर एयरपोर्ट्स ने विशेष इकाई स्थापित की

जीएमआर एयरपोर्ट्स ने राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (आईजीआईए) पर कार्गो सिटी परियोजना को लागू करने को लेकर विशेष उद्देश्यीय इकाई (एसपीवी) स्थापित की है। कंपनी ने शेयर बाजार को दी जानाकारी में कहा, 'जीएमआर कार्गो ऐंड लॉजिस्टिक लिमिटेड' को इस परियोजना के साथ-साथ अन्य परिवहन और लॉजिस्टिक से संबंधित अवसरों को शुरू करने के लिए 11 सितंबर को शामिल किया गया था। यह परियोजना दिल्ली इंटरनैशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) द्वारा प्रदान की गई थी, जो जीएमआर एयरपोर्ट्स की सहायक कंपनी है और आईजीआईए का संचालन करती है।

भाषा



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

15 को पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट का उद्घाटन और जनसभा को संबोधित करेंगे नरेंद्र मोदी

पटना, 12 सितम्बर (देशबन्धु) चुनावी साल में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी लगातार बिहार दौरे पर पहुंच रहे हैं। आगामी 15 सितम्बर को प्रधानमंत्री एक बार फिर से बिहार आ रहे हैं। इस दिन वह पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट का उद्घाटन करने के साथ साथ एक विशाल जनसभा को भी संबोधित करेंगे। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के दौरे को लेकर प्रशासनिक तैयारियां अंतिम चरण में हैं।

पीएम मोदी के दौरे को लेकर बिहार सरकार ने पूर्णिया में 30 अधिकारियों की तैनाती की है। ये सभी अधिकारी 14 से 15 सितंबर यानी दो दिनों तक पूर्णिया में तैनात रहेंगे। सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग की तरफ से इसको लेकर आदेश जारी किया गया है। सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग की तरफ से जारी आदेश में कहा गया कि प्रधानमंत्री के पूर्णिया दौरे के दौरान सुरक्षा एवं विधि



■ प्रधानमंत्री के दौरे को लेकर बिहार सरकार ने की 30 अधिकारियों की तैनाती

व्यवस्था संधारण के लिए इन अधिकारियों को पूर्णिया समाहरणालय में तैनात किया जाता है।

बता दें कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी आगामी 15 को पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट का उद्घाटन करेंगे और एक जनसभा को भी संबोधित करेंगे। पूर्णिया राज्य का चौथा वाणिज्यिक एयरपोर्ट होगा, जहां से

यात्री विमान सेवा शुरू हो सकेगी। एयरपोर्ट उद्घाटन के दौरान केवल विशिष्ट एवं गणमान्य व्यक्तियों को ही प्रवेश मिलेगा। जबकि शीशाबाड़ी की जनसभा में आम जनता बड़ी संख्या में शामिल होगी। पांच हैंगर का निर्माण भी जनसभा के लिए किया जा रहा है। प्रधानमंत्री के दौरे को लेकर पुलिस-प्रशासन अलर्ट मोड में हैं। ट्रैफिक पुलिस आम लोगों के लिए रूट चार्ट और पार्किंग स्थलों को अंतिम रूप देने में लगी हुई है। सूत्रों के अनुसार, कसबा, डगरूआ लेन, गुलाबबाग मार्केटिंग यार्ड, शीशाबाड़ी चौक और जीरोमाइल सहित 16-17 स्थानों पर वाहन पार्किंग के लिए जगह चिन्हित की गई है। जनसभा में भाग लेने के लिए जिले सहित सीमावर्ती इलाकों से बसों द्वारा लोगों के आने की संभावना है।

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के पास अवैध निर्माण पर चला यीडा का बुलडोजर



प्राधिकरण ने
1,10,000 वर्गमीटर
जमीन अवैध निर्माण
से मुक्त कराया

जेवर, 12 सितम्बर (देशबन्धु)। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट के पास जेवर क्षेत्र में हो रही अवैध प्लाटिंग पर शुक्रवार को यमुना प्राधिकरण ने बड़ा प्रहार करते हुए डेढ़ दर्जन जेसीबी मशीनें चलाकर 1,10,000 वर्गमीटर की भूमि को कब्जा मुक्त कराया। जिसकी कीमत करीब 550 करोड़ रूपए आंकी गई है। अवैध रूप से सरकारी भूमि पर भी कब्जा करने वाले भूमाफियाओं पर गुंडा एक्ट लगाने की तैयारी की जा रही है।

यमुना विकास प्राधिकरण के ओएसडी शैलेंद्र प्रताप सिंह, उपजिलाधिकारी जेवर अभय कुमार सिंह व भारी संख्या में पुलिस व पीएसी के साथ कोतवाली प्रभारी संजय सिंह आदि अधिकारी करीब डेढ़ दर्जन जेसीबी मशीन लेकर शुक्रवार दोपहर को जेवर के दयानतपुर रोड पर पहुंचे। जहां प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में की रही अवैध प्लाटिंग पर कार्रवाई करते हुए भूमि को कब्जा मुक्त कराया। इसके बाद टीम रामपुर रोड पर स्थित गांव साहब नगर के पास पहुंची और यहां भी बिना अनुमति व अवैध रूप से काटी जा रही कॉलोनियों को ध्वस्त किया गया। दोपहर बाद टीम अलीगढ़

रोड पर स्थित गांव मेंहदीपुर को जाने वाले रास्ते पर पहुंची जहां पर मेंहदीपुर रोड, जेवर बांगर, मेवला, गोपालगढ़ पर की जा रही अवैध प्लाटिंग को ध्वस्त करने की कार्रवाई की गई। इस दौरान जमीनों पर की गई बाउंड्री व दरवाजों के साथ प्लाटों की बाउंड्री व कमरों को भी ध्वस्त किया गया। कार्रवाई के दौरान प्राधिकरण की टीम द्वारा 550 करोड़ों रूपए सैकड़ों एकड़ जमीन को कब्जा मुक्त कराया। वहीं लोगों का आरोप है कि जब प्रॉपर्टी डीलर खुले आम कॉलोनियां काट कर बेच रहे होते हैं तब प्राधिकरण द्वारा कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की जाती है और प्रॉपर्टी बिकने के बाद कार्रवाई की जाती है। जिससे गरीब लोगों का लाखों की नुकसान हो जाता है। ओएसडी शैलेंद्र प्रताप ने बताया कि ये कार्रवाई लगातार जारी रहेगी तथा योजना सुबह 10 बजे से दोपहर 12 बजे तक अवैध अतिक्रमण के खिलाफ कार्रवाई की जाएगी। जिन लोगों द्वारा सरकारी जमीन पर अवैध कब्जा गया है उन्हें चिन्हित कर उनके खिलाफ गुंडा एक्ट की कार्रवाई की जाएगी। उन्होंने बताया कि एक डीलर को भी पुलिस हिरासत में भेजा गया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

SHORT TAKES

GHIAL BAGS LEVEL-4 ACCREDITATION UNDER ACI PROG.

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, SEPT. 11

The Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad, run by GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL), has earned Level-4 accreditation under Airports Council International's World Airport Customer Experience programme. This distinction places it among a select group of airports recognised for service excellence. GHIAL said the accreditation reflected its customer-first focus across four areas: fostering a customer-centric culture throughout operations; implementing advanced feedback systems and data-led improvements; close stakeholder coordination for seamless journeys, and ongoing innovation in infrastructure, digital services, and hospitality.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

लखनऊ समेत पांच और हवाई अड्डों पर फास्ट ट्रेक इमीग्रेशन

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने गुरुवार को लखनऊ, तिरुअनंतपुरम, त्रिची, कोझिकोड और अमृतसर हवाई अड्डे पर फास्ट ट्रेक इमीग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम का वीडियो कांफ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से शुभारंभ किया। इससे इन हवाई अड्डों पर निर्बाध आवागमन की सुविधा मिलेगी। इससे पहले दिल्ली, मुंबई, चेन्नई, कोलकाता, बेंगलुरु, कोचीन और अहमदाबाद हवाई अड्डे पर यह सुविधा शुरू हो चुकी है। शाह ने कहा कि इस प्रोग्राम के तहत रजिस्ट्रेशन करने

के बाद 30 सेकेंड में इमीग्रेशन की प्रक्रिया पूरी हो जाती है। शाह ने पासपोर्ट और ओसीआइ कार्ड जारी करते समय ही इसके पंजीकरण की संभावना पर काम करने पर जोर दिया। इससे यात्रियों को दोबारा फिंगरप्रिंट और दस्तावेजों के लिए आने की जरूरत नहीं रहेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इससे भारतीय नागरिकों के साथ-साथ ओसीआइ कार्डधारकों को भी फायदा होगा। नवी मुंबई और जेवर हवाई अड्डे को बनाने के साथ ही इस प्रोग्राम से जोड़ने की योजना गृह मंत्रालय ने बनाई है।

Home Minister launches faster immigration clearance at 5 airports

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday launched the Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP), which accelerates the immigration process for preverified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders, at five more airports.

After launching the FTI-TTP at Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli, Kozhikode and Amritsar airports, Mr. Shah said travellers would no longer experience long queues or manual checking and would receive immigration clearance in just 30 seconds without delays.

He said the programme had been launched in alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of



Amit Shah inaugurating the programme at five more airports through video conferencing in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

“speed, scale and scope”. The special initiative was first rolled out at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in July 2024, and two months later, extended to Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Cochin and Ahmedabad.

Mr. Shah said the facility would not only enhance the convenience of travellers but also provide an op-

portunity to introduce them to the changes taking place in the country.

Mr. Shah said with the FTI-TTP, seamless immigration facilities would be available at the designated airports and emphasised that merely providing convenience was not enough, action must be taken to ensure that the maximum number of travellers bene-

fited from it.

“To achieve this, efforts should be made to enable registration at the time of issuing passports and OCI cards,” he said, adding that if this could be implemented, travellers did not need to return for fingerprinting or documentation and they could travel using their passports whenever they wished.

“OCI cardholders will benefit the most,” he said, adding that the Home Ministry has planned to integrate this programme with the upcoming Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports.

About three lakh travellers have registered on this portal, of which 2.65 lakh have utilised it and efforts should be made to increase this number, he said. The FTI-TTP will eventually be launched at 21 major airports in the country.



Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

हवाई अड्डे के नाम से काटी जा रही अवैध कालोनियों पर चला बुलडोजर

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
ग्रेटर नोएडा, 12 सितंबर।

नोएडा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के नाम पर जेवर और उसके आसपास गांवों में काटी जा रही अवैध कालोनियों पर यमुना एक्सप्रेस वे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण ने कार्रवाई की। इस दौरान आधा दर्जन से अधिक काटी जा रही कालोनियों को ध्वस्त किया गया।

यीडा की टीम ने शुक्रवार सुबह से ही जेवर के बस्ती गांव में काटी जा रही अवैध कालोनियों में बुलडोजर चलाना शुरू किया। बताया गया है कि यहां जमीन काफी महंगी होने के चलते हवाई अड्डे के नाम पर जमकर अवैध कालोनियां काटी जा रही थी। प्राधिकरण ने नोटिस भी जारी किए थे, लेकिन प्लॉट काटने और निर्माण करने का सिलसिला जारी रहा। इसके बाद यीडा अधिकारियों ने अवैध कालोनी को चिन्हित करते हुए धास्तीकरण की कार्रवाई की। यीडा ओएसडी शैलेंद्र सिंह के नेतृत्व में प्राधिकरण व पुलिस की टीम ने मिलकर जेवर की सहाबनगर, डूढेरा, गोपालगढ़ गांव समेत अन्य में आधा दर्जन से अधिक अवैध कालोनियों को ध्वस्त किया।

नोएडा : अवैध निर्माण को लेकर 28 पर मुकदमा

नोएडा, 12 सितंबर (संवाददाता)।

शाहपुर गोवर्धनपुर गांव में नोएडा प्राधिकरण की जमीन पर अवैध अतिक्रमण को लेकर थाना सेक्टर- 126 में 28 लोगों पर मुकदमा दर्ज कराया गया है। वर्क सर्कल-9 के अवर अभियंता ने सभी पर अतिक्रमण करने का आरोप लगाया है।

प्राधिकरण के वर्क सर्किल-9 में तैनात अभियंता हरेंद्र मलिक ने बताया कि शाहपुर गोवर्धनपुर खादर गांव में खसरा संख्या 504, 505, 504एम, 507एम, 508 व 532 प्राधिकरण की अर्जित जमीन है। इस जमीन पर कुछ लोगों चोरी छिपे लगातार अवैध निर्माण कर अतिक्रमण कर रहे हैं। पूर्व में कई बार अतिक्रमण रोकने के प्रयास हो चुके हैं। मुनादी कराकर चेतावनी भी दी जा चुकी है और नोटिस भी भेजे जा चुके हैं, लेकिन अवैध अतिक्रमण करने पर रोक नहीं लग पा रही है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

— CM SAINI INAUGURATES FLIGHT OPERATIONS — Air services from Hisar's Maharaja Agrasen Airport expand to Jaipur

MPOST BUREAU

CHANDIGARH: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Friday inaugurated flight services from Maharaja Agrasen Airport, Hisar, to Jaipur. The ceremony was conducted virtually from Chandigarh. Public Works (Buildings & Roads) Minister, Ranbir Gangwa also remained present on this occasion.

The Chief Minister described the launch not just as the start of a new air route but as a significant step toward Haryana's development, regional integration, and modern connectivity. He emphasised that the state's growing identity in aviation will serve as a cornerstone for a self-reliant, progressive, and inclusive future.

Saini highlighted that while Haryana has traditionally been an agriculture-driven state, it is now making its mark in civil aviation by enhancing air connectivity. He recalled that civil aviation development has been a government priority since 2014.

Earlier this year, on April



Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini virtually inaugurating the Hisar-Jaipur-Hisar air service from Maharaja Agrasen Airport, Hisar MPOST

14, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated flights from Maharaja Agrasen Airport to Maharishi Valmiki International Airport, Ayodhya, and also laid the foundation for the airport's second terminal on the same day. On June 9, flight services between Hisar-Chandigarh- Hisar were launched, and soon services to Ahmedabad and Jammu will also begin, he informed.

The Chief Minister said that Hisar Airport has been equipped with modern technology and facilities with

the support of the Airports Authority of India, emerging as a key hub for regional connectivity. A Doppler VOR system has been installed, reducing the minimum visibility required for flight operations from 5,000 meters to 2,800 meters, a remarkable technological achievement. He said that this will ensure smoother flight operations even in adverse weather conditions. An Instrument Landing System is also being installed, allowing aircraft to land safely during wee hours, said Nayab Singh Saini.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

ALIPORE ZOO

Forest Minister orders probe after deaths of 2 tigresses

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA: Two back-to-back deaths of tigress' have occurred in Alipore Zoological Gardens with the zoo authorities attributing both the cases to age-related ailments.

17-year-old 'Payel' died on Tuesday after suffering from several health complications. She had recently lost her ability to move and had stopped intake of any food for the last few days. Payel was brought from Nandankanan Zoo in Odisha in the year 2017.

The second death of tigress Rupa whose age was 21 years occurred on Wednesday morning. Rupa was a white tigress born at Alipore Zoo. She was also suffering from age-related ailments.

One of her legs was

'The post mortem report of both the tigress has made it clear that deaths were natural. Our zoo employees are very committed and dedicated to animal care'

severely affected in the recent past. Interestingly, Rupa was born to white tiger Anirban and striped tigress Krishna.

State Forest minister Birbaha Hansda confirmed that both the deaths were natural and related with old-age health complications.

"The post mortem report of both the tigress has made it clear that deaths were natural. Our zoo employees are very committed and dedicated to animal care," said Hansda.

The minister, however, added that she has asked the

Principal Secretary of her department to conduct an internal probe and submit a report on the deaths.

A senior official of the Forest department said that they would soon hold a meeting to decide whether any tiger needs to be brought to Alipore through an exchange programme with the population decreasing by two.

"If we decide on bringing any tiger, we will seek a nod from the Central Zoo Authority as per norms," he added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

यात्री परेशान: 6 से ज्यादा फ्लाइटें कैंसिल और विलंबित एयरपोर्ट के डीवीओआर पर गाज गिरने से दूसरे दिन भी फ्लाइटें वहीं प्रभावित

पत्रिका ब्यूरो
patrika.com

रायपुर, स्वामी विवेकानंद एयरपोर्ट के रनवे में बिजली गिरने से दूसरे दिन गुरुवार को फ्लाइटों का संचालन प्रभावित रहा। इसके चलते 3 फ्लाइट कैंसिल, 3 डायवर्ट और 6 अपने निर्धारित समय से घंटों विलंब से पहुंचीं। इसके चलते यात्री परेशान और हलाकान होते रहे। उन्होंने विमानन कंपनी और एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी द्वारा गुमराह करने के लिए गलत जानकारी देने पर जमकर भड़ास निकाली। वहीं दूसरी तरफ हैदराबाद से पहुंची विशेषज्ञों की टीम ने एटीसी के पास रनवे के ऑपरेशनल क्षेत्र में लगाए गए डीवीओआर को सुधारने की कोशिश की। लेकिन, बिजली गिरने से बुरी तरह से जल चुके इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डिवाइस को निकालने के बाद दूसरा लगाया गया। इसके बाद टेस्टिंग कर दोपहर करीब 3 बजे इसे शुरू किया गया।

AI/No.	Flight No.	STD	ETD	Dest.	Gate	Carrier	Status
IndGo	6E 6164	13:40	16:25	ABHILASHABAD	05		Delayed
IndGo	6E 6313	14:55	16:30	DELHI	06		Delayed
IndGo	6E 6805	16:50	16:30	PUNE	07		Scheduled
IndGo	6E 5191	16:20	18:20	MUMBAI			Scheduled
IndGo	6E 7354	16:50	18:30	HYDRABAD			Scheduled
IndGo	6E 885	18:55	18:55	GOA			Scheduled

फ्लाइट डायवर्ट

मुंबई-भुवनेश्वर
इंदौर-भोपाल
दिल्ली-भोपाल

फ्लाइट कैंसिल

कोलकाता
बैंगलूरु
इंदौर
दिल्ली

दोपहर में हुई लैंडिंग

रनवे पर दृश्यता कम होने के कारण सुबह फ्लाइटों को भुवनेश्वर और भोपाल डायवर्ट किया गया था। दोपहर 2 बजे में धूप निकलने और विजिबिलिटी सामान्य होने पर उड़ानों का संचालन फिर से शुरू किया गया। डायवर्ट की गई फ्लाइटें वापसी हुईं। 10 सितंबर को डायवर्ट की गई फ्लाइटें वापिस उड़ान भरने वाले शहर लौट गई थीं। हालात के सामान्य होने पर वह गुरुवार को वापसी हुईं।

घंटों विलंब रही उड़ानें

डीवीओआर के खराब होने के कारण फ्लाइटों का संचालन अस्तव्यस्त रहा। इसकी सूचना सभी संबंधित एयरपोर्ट और भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण को भेजी गई थी। इसे देखते हुए फ्लाइटों का संचालन विलंब से किया गया। सुबह की अहमदाबाद, दिल्ली, मुंबई, दिल्ली, इंदौर और भोपाल फ्लाइट अपने निर्धारित समय से 4 से 5 घंटे विलंब से रायपुर पहुंचीं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Amit Shah inaugurates fast-track immigration facility at five airports

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 11 September

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday inaugurated the Fast Track Immigration - Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) at Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Kozhikode, and Amritsar airports through video conferencing from the national capital.

The facility was first launched in 2024 from Delhi, followed by its implementation at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Kochi, and Ahmedabad airports, and now, five new airports have been added.

Shah, as per an official statement, said that it will not only enhance the convenience of travellers but also provide an opportunity to introduce them to the changes taking place in the country.

The FTI-TTP is a programme that enhances both convenience and national security, the minister said after inaugurating the facility.

The minister said that the process is now operational

at a total of 13 airports simultaneously.

He also added that the Ministry of Home Affairs has planned to integrate this programme with the upcoming Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports.

The minister mentioned that all those who have used this facility so far have praised it.

Travellers now experience no long queues or manual checking, receiving immigration clearance in just 30 seconds without delays, he added.

The minister also said that approximately 3 lakh travellers have registered on the portal, of which 2.65 lakh have utilised it during travel, and efforts should be made to continuously increase this number.

Shah said that under the leadership of PM Modi, over the past 11 years, there has been significant increase in international passenger traffic.

He said the next stage of enhancing travellers' convenience, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Speed, Scale, and Scope, starts today with this programme.

Shah: Max airports must have fast-track immigration model

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Launching the 'fast track immigration-trusted traveller programme' (FTI-TTP), which enables faster immigration of pre-verified



flyers through automated e-gates, at five more international airports in the country, home minister **Amit Shah** on Thursday suggested that its coverage be maximised by enabling resident Indians and Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) to sign up for FTI-TTP at the state of issuing of passports or OCI cards itself.

With the inclusion of Lucknow, Amritsar, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchirappalli and Kozhikode international airports, the number of airports covered under the programme has risen to 13.

First launched at Delhi airport in June 2022, the

programme added seven more airports — covering Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi and Ahmedabad — in Jan this year. Shah said the facility will be available at the upcoming Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports as well.

Addressing the FTI-TTP inauguration event at the five airports through video-conference, the home minister said around 3 lakh persons had registered under the programme and over 2.6 lakh travellers, both inbound and outbound, had availed of it, enabling them to clear immigration in 30 seconds, with no long queues or manual checks.

"The next phase of the effort to enhance passenger convenience by integrating PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'speed, scale, and scope' into the FTI-TTP is starting from today," he said, adding that the programme also introduces foreign travellers to the positive changes taking place in India.

Slow Takeoff For Fast-Track Immigration At RGIA

Sunny.Baski@timesofindia.com

Hyderabad: The biometric-based Fast Track Immigration (FTI) system, launched in June 2024 to reduce immigration waiting times from nearly 30 minutes to just a few seconds via automated e-gates, has seen limited uptake so far. By Dec 2024, only 19,000 travellers had signed up for the programme.

The Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Travellers Programme (FTI-TTP), introduced by the ministry of home affairs, was rolled out at key airports, including Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi and Ahmedabad. Designed to provide a faster and more efficient immigration clearance process, the system targets frequent flyers and eligible passengers.

ENROLMENT DIFFICULT

According to officials at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), enrolment is proving difficult, as travellers can currently submit their biometric details only at select Foreigners Regional Registration Offices (FRROs) or a limited number of airports, such as Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Delhi.

“Many passengers are unaware of the programme’s advantages and the fact that registration is free. At the same time, traditional immigration counters continue to face staff shortages, creating long queues at both arrival and departure. Greater adoption

Launched in June 2024, programme saw only 19,000 travellers signing up for it by Dec 2024



“Many passengers are unaware of the programme’s advantages and the fact that registration is free. At the same time, traditional immigration counters continue to face staff shortages, creating long queues – Senior RGIA official

of the FTI system will help reduce congestion, improve efficiency, and provide a smoother travel experience across airports in India,” said a senior RGIA official.

Industry experts highlight the need for broader accessibility. They suggest enabling biometric capture at Passport Seva Kendras, which already

operate nationwide, to make registration easier. Alongside an awareness drive, this step could significantly increase adoption and strengthen India’s position in global travel facilitation.

“Several international hubs such as Singapore, Doha, Dubai and Bangkok have already adopted digital im-



HOW FTI SYSTEM WORKS

- To enrol in the programme, applicants must complete online registration by entering their details & uploading required documents on the portal



- Biometric data of registered applicants will be captured either at the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) or while passing through the airport



- Registered travellers will need to scan their airline-issued boarding pass at the e-gate, followed by scanning their passport



- At both arrival & departure points, passengers’ biometrics will be authenticated at the e-gates

- Once authentication is successful, the e-gate will open automatically and immigration clearance will be considered granted



migration solutions such as passport scans and facial recognition, allowing passengers to clear immigration swiftly. Implementing similar technology in India can transform passenger experience and bring the country in line with international standards,” said Anil Rao, secretary of the Airline Pilots’ Association of India.



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

मुंबई जा रहे स्पाइसजेट के विमान का गिरा पहिया

मुंबई। गुजरात के कांडला हवाईअड्डे से उड़ान भरते ही स्पाइसजेट के विमान का पहिया निकलकर रनवे पर गिर गया। विमान को मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाईअड्डे पर आपातकालीन लैंडिंग कराई गई।

विमान में 75 लोग सवार थे। सभी सुरक्षित हैं।

क्यू 400 विमान ने शुक्रवार दोपहर 1:25 बजे उड़ान भरी ही थी



कि पिछले हिस्से का एक बाहरी पहिया गिर गया। पायलट ने मुंबई में वायु यातायात नियंत्रण (एटीसी) केंद्र को इसकी जानकारी देते हुए यात्रा जारी रखी। मुंबई हवाईअड्डे पर पूर्ण आपातकाल लागू करते हुए करीब चार बजे विमान को सुरक्षित उतारा गया। गंभीरता रही कि पिछला पहिया खुल गया, वरना मुश्किल हो सकती थी। एजेसी



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

उड़ान के बाद स्पाइसजेट के विमान का पहिया गिरा

कांडला हवाई अड्डे से उड़ान भरने के बाद शुक्रवार को स्पाइसजेट के विमान (क्यू 400) का पहिया टूटकर नीचे गिर गया और विमान को मुंबई हवाई अड्डे पर आपातकालीन स्थिति में उतारना पड़ा जिसमें कुल 75 लोग सवार थे। अधिकारियों ने यह जानकारी दी। मुंबई हवाई अड्डे के संचालक एमआईएएल ने कहा कि विमान दोपहर 3.51 बजे सुरक्षित रूप से उतर गया और सभी यात्री और चालक दल सुरक्षित हैं। हवाई अड्डे पर परिचालन कुछ समय के लिए प्रभावित हुआ। एयरलाइन ने बयान में कहा, '12 सितंबर को कांडला से मुंबई के लिए उड़ान भरने वाले स्पाइसजेट के क्यू400 विमान का एक बाहरी पहिया उड़ान भरने के बाद रनवे पर पाया गया। विमान ने मुंबई की अपनी यात्रा जारी रखी और सुरक्षित रूप से वहां उतर गया।'

भाषा



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE DAILY GUARDIAN

DELHI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Over 200 Air India passengers deplaned after AC failure

TGG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

More than 200 passengers on a Singapore-bound Air India flight had to deboard after sitting inside the aircraft for nearly two hours without air conditioning at the Delhi airport.

Flight AI2380, operated with a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, was scheduled to depart around 11 pm on Wednesday but faced delays due to technical issues. According to a PTI journalist onboard, the aircraft's air conditioning system and electric supply were not functioning.

Passengers remained inside the aircraft for nearly two hours before being asked to deboard and return to the terminal building. The crew, however, did not provide any specific explanation for the deplaning.



Representational Image

Flight AI2380, operated with a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, was scheduled to depart around 11 pm on Wednesday but faced delays due to technical issues.

Air India has not issued a statement on the incident. Meanwhile, video clips circulating on social media

showed passengers fanning themselves with newspapers and magazines as they waited inside the grounded aircraft.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

उड़ान भरते ही रनवे पर गिरा स्पाइसजेट विमान का पहिया

मुंबई, प्रेट: कांडला एयरपोर्ट से शुक्रवार को उड़ान भरते ही स्पाइसजेट विमान का एक पहिया रनवे पर गिर गया। इसके बावजूद विमान की उड़ान जारी रखी गई। बाद में मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर विमान की आपात लैंडिंग कराई गई। अभी तक यह जानकारी नहीं मिल पाई है कि विमान में कितने लोग सवार थे।

एयरलाइन के बयान के अनुसार, '12 सितंबर को कांडला से मुंबई के लिए उड़ान भरने वाले स्पाइसजेट के क्यू400 विमान का एक बाहरी पहिया उड़ान भरने के बाद रनवे पर पाया गया। विमान ने मुंबई की अपनी यात्रा जारी रखी और सुरक्षित रूप से वहां उतर गया।' स्पाइसजेट ने बताया कि सफलतापूर्वक उतरने के बाद विमान अपनी शक्ति से टर्मिनल तक पहुंचा और सभी यात्री सामान्य रूप से उतर गए।



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Settlement with CAP to help secure \$89.5 mn liquidity: Spicejet

PTI
NEW DELHI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Thursday said its settlement with global aircraft leasing and financing firm Carlyle Aviation Partners (CAP) for the restructuring of the airline's certain lease dues to the tune of USD 12.18 million will help it secure USD 89.5 million liquidity and support its ongoing restructuring efforts. The settlement agreement with CAP also provides for a mechanism under which, in the event lessors realise proceeds above USD 50-million from the sale of the issued shares, a portion of such



excess will be applied to offset future lease obligations, the airline said.

The agreement unlocks USD 79.6 million in cash maintenance reserves and USD 9.9 million in credits, SpiceJet said in a statement. The settlement is in conjunction with the issuance of equity shares aggregating to USD 50 million, SpiceJet said in a statement.

Significantly, this comes

amid the Gurugram-headquartered airline providing Rs 32 crore as an interest-free advance to its Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh in 2024-25, and the amount is being adjusted from his monthly salary.

The airline however, termed the move as "not prejudicial to its interest." The airline in the statement also said that the promoter will have the option, opportunity to purchase such Equity Shares on mutually agreed terms upon the expiry of the statutory lock-in period and any additional lock-in period contractually agreed between the parties.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HARI BHUMI

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

हिसार से अयोध्या, दिल्ली और चंडीगढ़ के बाद अब जयपुर के लिए भी हवाई सेवा शुरू जल्द ही हिसार से अहमदाबाद और जम्मू तक हवाई सेवाओं का होगा शुभारंभ: नायब

हरिभूमि ब्यूरो ॥ नई दिल्ली

हरियाणा के मुख्यमंत्री नायब सिंह सेनी ने शुक्रवार को महाराजा अग्रसेन हवाई अड्डा, हिसार से जयपुर के लिए हवाई सेवाओं का शुभारंभ किया। उन्होंने चंडीगढ़ से वर्चुअल माध्यम से हवाई सेवाओं का शुभारंभ करते हुए कहा कि आज यह नई उड़ान की शुरुआत नहीं, बल्कि हरियाणा के विकास, क्षेत्रीय समावेशन और आधुनिक कनेक्टिविटी की दिशा में एक अहम कदम है। हवाई सेवाओं में बढ़ती



हरियाणा की पहचान राज्य के आत्मनिर्भर, प्रगतिशील और समावेशी भविष्य की नींव का पत्थर साबित होगी। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि

कृषि प्रधान प्रदेश होने के साथ अब हरियाणा ने नागरिक उड्डयन का विकास करके एयर कनेक्टिविटी में भी अपनी पहचान बनाई है। उन्होंने कहा कि वर्ष 2014 में सरकार बनने के समय से ही नागरिक उड्डयन का विकास सरकार की प्राथमिकता रही है। जल्द ही हिसार से अहमदाबाद और जम्मू तक हवाई सेवाओं का भी शुभारंभ करेंगे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

एसी में खराबी के चलते छह घंटे देरी से उड़ा विमान

परेशानी

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से बुधवार रात सिंगापुर के लिए उड़ान भरने वाला एयर इंडिया का विमान तकनीकी खराबी के कारण छह घंटे से ज्यादा देरी से रवाना हुआ। विमान का एसी काम नहीं करने से यात्रियों को काफी परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ा।

एयर इंडिया की उड़ान संख्या एआई-2380 को रात 11 बजे उड़ान भरनी थी, लेकिन विमान का एसी काम नहीं कर रहा था। शुरू में तकनीकी टीम ने इसे ठीक करने का प्रयास किया, मगर समस्या दूर न होने पर विमान को बदलना पड़ा। अंततः गुरुवार सुबह 5:36 बजे दूसरा विमान रवाना किया गया। एयर इंडिया प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि इस दौरान यात्रियों को लगातार जानकारी दी जाती रही और भोजन-पानी उपलब्ध कराया गया।

प्रवक्ता ने यात्रियों को हुई असुविधा पर खेद जताते हुए कहा कि कंपनी का

काठमांडू जाने वाली उड़ान दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट लौटी



दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से काठमांडू के लिए उड़ान भरने वाला स्पाइसजेट का विमान बुधवार सुबह

कुछ देर बाद ही वापस लौट आया। गुरुवार सुबह स्पाइसजेट के विमान संख्या एसजी-041 ने काठमांडू के लिए उड़ान भरी थी। उड़ान भरने के कुछ देर बाद एक अन्य विमान से किसी ने सूचना दी कि स्पाइसजेट विमान के पिछले हिस्से में आग दिखी है। यह सूचना तुरंत पायलट को दी गई जिसके बाद इस विमान को वापस एयरपोर्ट पर उतारा गया। पूरे विमान की जांच में कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं पाया गया। इस विमान ने सुबह 8.10 की जगह सुबह 10.15 बजे उड़ान भरी।

प्रयास हमेशा सुरक्षित और आरामदायक यात्रा सुनिश्चित करना है। उड़ान में देरी से परेशान यात्रियों ने भी राहत की सांस ली जब विमान आखिरकार सुबह उड़ान भर सका।

लखनऊ समेत पांच और हवाईअड्डों पर 30 सेकंड में आब्रजन सुविधा

सहूलियत

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसियां। केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने गुरुवार को पांच और हवाई अड्डों पर फास्ट ट्रेक इमिग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम (एफटीआई-टीटीपी) की शुरुआत की। पूर्व-सत्यापित भारतीय नागरिकों और प्रवासी भारतीय (ओसीआई) कार्डधारकों की आब्रजन प्रक्रिया तेज होने से विदेश यात्रा करने वालों को आसानी होगी, उन्हें मात्र 30 सेकंड में आब्रजन क्लीयरेंस मिल जाएगा।

यह विशेष पहल सबसे पहले जुलाई 2024 में इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर शुरू की गई थी। दो महीने बाद इसे सात और

हवाई अड्डों-मुंबई, चेन्नई, कोलकाता, बेंगलुरु, हैदराबाद, कोच्चि और अहमदाबाद में शुरू किया गया। गुरुवार को एफटीआई-टीटीपी लखनऊ, तिरुवनंतपुरम, तिरुचिरापल्ली, कोझिकोड और अमृतसर में शुरू किया गया। अब 13 हवाईअड्डों पर यह सुविधा शुरू की जा चुकी है।

गृह मंत्री ने डिजिटल माध्यम से आयोजित एक विशेष कार्यक्रम में कहा, फास्ट ट्रेक इमिग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम आब्रजन को सरल, तेज और बाधा मुक्त बनाता है। शाह ने बताया कि इस कार्यक्रम का सबसे ज्यादा लाभ ओसीआई कार्डधारकों और विदेश यात्रा करने वाले भारतीय नागरिकों को मिलेगा। एफटीआई-



13 हो गई है देश में फास्ट ट्रेक सुविधा देने वाले हवाई अड्डों की संख्या

01 साल पहले इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे से हुई थी शुरुआत

इन पांच हवाई अड्डों पर शुरू हुई व्यवस्था

तीन लाख लोग करा चुके हैं पंजीकरण

गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि अब तक तीन लाख लोगों ने फास्ट ट्रेक इमिग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम (एफटीआई-टीटीपी) पंजीकरण कराया है और 2.65 लाख लोगों ने इस सुविधा का लाभ उठाया है। इस दौरान अधिकारियों ने इस सुविधा के बारे में जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि यह कार्यक्रम त्वरित आब्रजन मंजूरी सुनिश्चित करता है। अब तक ई-गेट्स के जरिए हवाई सेवा का लाभ लेने वाले हजारों यात्रियों को तेजी से आब्रजन मंजूरी मिल चुकी है।

स्वामी विवेकानंद से प्रेरणा लें युवा: अमित शाह

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने गुरुवार को शिकागो में विश्व धर्म महासभा में स्वामी विवेकानंद के ऐतिहासिक भाषण की वर्षगांठ पर उन्हें श्रद्धाजलि अर्पित की। उन्होंने युवाओं से आह्वान किया कि वे विवेकानंद के विचारों से प्रेरणा लेकर नया भारत और बेहतर विश्व के निर्माण में योगदान दें।

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने गुरुवार को जिन पांच हवाईअड्डों पर फास्ट ट्रेक इमिग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम (एफटीआई-टीटीपी) की शुरुआत की, वे हैं- उत्तर प्रदेश का लखनऊ, केरल का तिरुवनंतपुरम, केरल का ही कोझिकोड, तमिलनाडु का त्रिची, और पंजाब का अमृतसर हवाई अड्डा।

टीटीपी के आने से यात्रियों को लंबी लाइन, मैनुअल चेकिंग और बिना देरी के मात्र 30 सेकंड में इमिग्रेशन

क्लीयरेंस मिल जाता है। उन्होंने कहा कि फास्ट ट्रेक इमिग्रेशन-ट्रस्टेड ट्रेवलर प्रोग्राम से यात्रियों की सुविधा

के साथ-साथ राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि यह पहल प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के 'स्पीड

(गति), स्केल (पैमाने) और स्कोप (दायरे)' के दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप शुरू किया गया है।

 Hindustan Times

SpiceJet aircraft loses wheel during take-off, lands safely

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: One of the landing gear's wheels of a SpiceJet aircraft with 75 people on board detached as the jet departed from Kandla for its journey to Mumbai on Friday, triggering a full emergency at its destination where it eventually made a safe landing.

The wheel that separated was one of two on the right rear landing gear, and it came to light when the Kandla air traffic control spotted an object dropping from the plane immediately after take-off. Officials confirmed the fallen wheel and metal rings were later recovered from the runway.

"Kandla ATC saw something falling down immediately after the flight's departure. They then told the pilot and sent the ATC jeep to fetch the fallen item," an Airports Authority of India official said.

A video shot by one of the passengers shows the crucial moment, with the person recording it heard repeatedly exclaiming in disbelief: "wheel nikal gaya (the wheel has come off)".

At Mumbai, fire tenders and rescue teams waited on high alert as the flight, SG-2906, arrived. It landed safely on Runway 27 at 3.51 pm. "An aircraft from Kandla made an emergency landing at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport after reporting a technical issue. A full emergency was declared as a precaution. The aircraft landed safely on Runway 27," a CSMA spokesperson said.

The plane involved was a Bombardier Q400, a jet typically used for short-distance regional flights. It was grounded after the incident.

An official said the incident did not end in a more-serious outcome because the wheel separated just as the plane lifted off the ground. "Fortunately, the landing gear was



A video grab shows the plane at Mumbai airport with the damaged landing gear.

retracting because of which it was able to land safely," this person explained, asking not to be named.

SpiceJet confirmed the incident in a statement: "On September 12, an outer wheel of a SpiceJet Q400 aircraft operating from Kandla to Mumbai was found at the runway after take-off. The aircraft continued its journey to Mumbai and landed safely. Following a smooth landing, the aircraft taxied to the terminal, and all passengers disembarked normally."

Aviation experts emphasised the seriousness of the incident while acknowledging the safety systems that prevented disaster.

"Wheel coming off is a serious incident but since the wheel assembly has two wheels, and one was attached it saved the day," a former Directorate General of Civil Aviation official said, asking not to be named. "But if one came out, the other could have come out too."

A former airline official suggested the pilot's decision-making was sound: "This is a serious incident and that's why the pilot must have decided to land in Mumbai rather than landing back in Kandla. They must have thought that Mumbai is equipped with longer runway which is better to land at such difficult moments."

The incident adds to recent technical issues faced by SpiceJet aircraft. In July, a window frame of a SpiceJet aircraft operating from Goa to Pune came off during flight.

PROBE REPORT IN AIR INDIA PLANE CRASH LIKELY TO BE OUT BY YEAR-END

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: A final probe report into the June 12 Air India plane crash is expected to be released by the year-end, officials familiar with the matter said, even as the three-month deadline set for a high-level panel constituted by the Centre to review safety protocols and submit its report ended on Friday.

On June 12, Air India's Boeing 787-8 aircraft en route to London from Ahmedabad crashed into a building soon after take-off, killing 260 people, including 19 people on the ground. Out of the 242 people onboard, one passenger survived.

"The investigation is progressing well and the final report will be made public before the year ends," an official said.

While the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), which is leading the probe into India's deadliest crash in three decades, did not respond to HT's query on the timeline, civil aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu recently said that the report may take four to five months.

AAIB has so far issued a preliminary report, which pointed to multiple possible factors in the seconds leading up to the crash.

Besides the technical probe, the Centre set up a high-level committee to review safety protocols. It was tasked with submitting its report within three months, but the deadline passed on Friday. "The committee requires in-depth study of the subject and hence will require some time," another official said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

 **Hindustan Times:**

GOVT PLANNING ARTIFICIAL RAIN TRIALS MID-OCT, SAYS MINISTER

NEW DELHI: The Delhi government is preparing to conduct an artificial-rain trial by October 15 and will write to the meteorological department for monsoon withdrawal updates to apply for a new time window.

The city environment department has been actively monitoring atmospheric conditions and has asked the India Meteorological Department (IMD) for updates on the monsoon status and withdrawal date, so that it can apply to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for a new time window for cloud-seeding.

Delhi environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa told PTI that the department will conduct the trial after monsoon to ensure the best output. He said once there is some clarity from the weather department, they will again write to the DGCA to seek the necessary approvals for conducting these operations safely.

Sirsa further said the final time window is likely to be decided by atmospheric data trends and a scientific assessment of cloud conditions. **PTI**



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{ AVIATION REFORM, AMID RESISTANCE }

A new licensing system that will shake up pilot training

Anjali Bhargava



Indian aviation finds itself at the crossroads — again. Currently, the country of 1.4 billion is being serviced by a total of 850-odd aircraft (many are grounded due to various constraints at any point) but by 2040, based on the aircraft on order, another 1,200 should be added to the country's total fleet strength.

The shortage of commanders and pilots to operate this fleet is already at around 15-20% as per industry estimates, and is expected to rise as airlines begin to induct their new aircraft. Consulting firm CAPA has estimated that India will need another 10,000 new captains in the next decade, till 2034. Airbus has further projected that the country — based on its present aircraft orders — will require 34,000 new pilots by the year 2040.

Individual airlines are also fearing an acute shortage that could throw their plans awry as they go forward. IndiGo, the country's largest airline, which currently has around 5300 commanders and first officers (with around 400 under training at any point) expects to double this by 2030 based on current fleet induction plans.

The Tata group has recently announced plans to set up a new academy to prepare crew for its own growing needs for all the carriers under their fold.

Airline executives also say

that unlike in the past when commanding an aircraft was considered a glamorous and a coveted career, today's young people have a plethora of options with equally lucrative salaries. "We have seen the enthusiasm wane when we make campus pitches", says a senior IndiGo manager.

To overcome this yawning gap, airlines have thrown their weight behind a new pathway — a multi-crew pilots licence — which would alter the way pilots are trained in India currently. The existing system of training and readying pilots is such that pilots train on smaller aircraft and earn a commercial pilot's licence (CPL). CPL licence holders then have to undergo extensive training to work in a commercial airliner.

India has long had a shortage of CPL training organisations and a large number of aspirants travel overseas to the US and other countries to earn the licence. After this they apply and hope to get picked up by one of the Indian commercial airlines to undergo extensive training to be fit to fly as first officer.

While CPL training within India has gone up, the current process is likely to worsen the shortage as can be seen from the data. In 2020, 574 CPL licences were issued. This number rose by 49%, 35% and 47% for the next three years but 2024 has seen a drop in the number of CPL licences issued.

The multi-crew licence was introduced by ICAO in 2006 and is now accepted in almost 50 countries including several

European ones, UAE, UK and many in South East Asia including Malaysia and Thailand. While India has so far desisted from joining the many countries who have adopted this, in July the director general of civil aviation (DGCA) set up a committee to examine the move.

The matter was previously examined in detail by a committee set up in 2017, which recommended permitting multi-crew licensing and suggested ways of improving the existing licensing system as well.

With the pandemic, the entire matter was put on the back burner but in view of the growth in aviation post pandemic, the expected crew shortage has fuelled a relook.

Why airlines argue it's the way forward

The multi-crew licensing system is an airline-led programme involving three entities: the airline, the flying training organisation (FTO) and the Aircraft Training Organisation (which provides simulator training) and is a competency based programme that allows the copilots to train in a multi-crew environment right from the beginning of their training. Instead of starting on a small, single engine aircraft, the new licence qualifies the holder to perform co-pilot duties on aeroplanes operated with more than one pilot.

What this effectively means is that the trainee will do 40-80 hours of basic flying (some solo and cross country) and then will do almost 140-180 hours of intense simulator based train-



Airlines have thrown their weight behind a new pathway, a multi-crew pilots licence, which would alter the way pilots are trained.

ing. "As things stand, a pilot undergoing training learns what he requires to know in about 70 hours of flying on a single engine plane and then he flies around with little clear purpose to tot up his hours to 200 but the learning is very little", explains a senior IndiGo executive.

In contrast, the MPL allows "competency based training" which would train the pilot as per the specific airline's needs in the nine competencies required right from day one instead of "wasting time chalking up flying hours". A senior Air India executive says that MPL will improve safety practices as currently airlines typically put CPL holders who have trained on single engine aeroplanes after a bit of

business known for its thin margins although airlines argue that the cost saving if any at all would be negligible. In fact they argue that the airline would be more deeply vested and invest more time and effort in each candidate since MPL is an airline led programme.

"Pilots need actual flying experience and such extensive use of simulators cannot replace the actual flying" says Jati Dhillon, a former senior commander and managing director of GATI, a flying school. He argues that the fact that countries like the US and Canada do not allow MPL means that it is a sub-optimal solution to a problem of scarcity.

Dhillon fears that the move to MPL could spell the death knell for the 38-odd FTOs across India including the government owned IGRUA, an argument the airlines rubbish.

They argue that the CPL system would still continue and that flying schools can produce more CPL holders with the same number of aircraft since candidates only need to do around 70 hours of flying instead of 200. "On the contrary, before a candidate goes in for a MPL licence, he in any case has to do 70 hours of flying in a smaller aircraft so the system would exist in parallel", says an airline executive.

Several senior commanders including former IAF personnel echo the view that MPL graduates risk becoming "flight managers" for a specific aircraft type rather than fully developed aviators with a keener and nuanced understanding of piloting in real life situations.

"If we want to place good managers in the cockpit instead of skilled aviators, then this might be the way to go", says a senior Air India commander who has been a flight instructor for years now. He argues that too much reliance on automation has its own pitfalls, as we have seen of late in several safety incidents and accidents.

According to a former DGCA chief, this is nothing but the classic divide between the old and the new and the usual resistance to change.

"MPL training relies more heavily on simulator and multi-crew training, with less solo flying in actual aircraft and will lead to reduced manual flying skills. Many of the old guard oppose an overdependence on automation and would rather stick to the tried and tested model", he explains.

Resistance to change, he says, is at the crux of this but to argue that it is not tested is not true since the licensing system has been working across countries and airlines since 2013 with no clear negative repercussions.

Other glaring gaps

While MPL is being viewed as a "fait accompli" since the matter was studied by a committee in 2017 that endorsed it, the regulatory and oversight framework needs to be worked out carefully, say airline executives.

Meanwhile, commanders and crew across airlines point to many other reforms that need to be looked into by DGCA including the system of expiry of pilot licences.

In some ICAO member countries, the authorities issue non-expiring licences and the regulator only has to ensure that the licence holder meets the recency and competency criteria.

"This would obviate a lot of harassment faced by crew currently as getting one's licence renewed by DGCA officials is a big pain point and a leverage for the officials involved", says a senior commander. This is also an area of petty corruption as many DGCA officers use this to arm twist, seek small monetary favours from or generally harass a pilot.

Another demand and recommendation of the 2017 committee is that DGCA follow the system established by ICAO regarding type-ratings/class ratings for both aeroplanes and helicopters, which is based on single-pilot and two/multi-pilot operation instead of type-rating for individual aircraft, based on weight categories of aircraft. This will also obviate the need for individual type-rating for every aircraft, which causes additional workload.

Crew and other airline executives allege that several of the proposed reforms remain on paper as the DGCA and its officials do not want to lose their relevance and control and would like to maintain the status quo. But, as the saying goes, in an ever changing world, change is the only constant.

Anjali Bhargava writes about governance, infrastructure, and the social sector.

The views expressed are personal



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Develop airstrips in Uttarkashi and Chamoli, Dhami urges Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
DEHRADUN, SEPTEMBER 12

UTTARAKHAND CHIEF Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami Friday met Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu in New Delhi and urged him to develop airstrips in Chamoli and Uttarkashi to promote small aircraft operations.

The Chief Minister told the Union Minister about the state's plan to resume helicopter services for the Char Dham Yatra after the monsoon season, calling them "extremely important for elderly, differently abled, and infirm pilgrims".

Dhami informed Naidu that in the hill districts, air connectivity is not only necessary but critical from the perspective of tourism, civilian movement, and disaster management. He requested the development of the Gauchar (Chamoli) and Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi) airstrips for small aircraft operations and their connection with Delhi, Dehradun, and Hindon.

He said this would enhance facilities for the Char Dham Yatra and ease the supply of essential goods in mountainous areas.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Delhi plans artificial rain experiment by mid-Oct

NEW DELHI: The Delhi government is preparing to conduct an artificial-rain trial by October 15 and will write to the meteorological department for monsoon withdrawal updates to apply for a new time window.

The city government's environment department has been actively monitoring atmospheric conditions and has asked the meteorological department (Mausam Vibhag) for updates on the monsoon status and withdrawal date, so that it can apply to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation for a new time window for cloud-seeding operations. Delhi Environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa told PTI that the department will

conduct the trial after monsoon to ensure the best output. He added that once there is some clarity from the weather department, they will again write to the DGCA to seek the necessary approvals for conducting these operations safely.

Sirsa further said the final time window is likely to be decided on the basis of atmospheric data trends and a scientific assessment of cloud conditions. The government's proactive approach aims to address concerns related to dwindling groundwater levels and rising air pollution in the national capital post monsoon. The artificial-rain initiative will be conducted under

strict supervision, with detailed reports from the Mausam Vibhag guiding the process. At a press conference in July, Sirsa had announced that the date for the trial was postponed due to the arrival of monsoon. The trial was deferred till August-end as rain may not provide ideal conditions and can prevent the desired results. The trial, which was initially scheduled to be held between July 4 and 11, has now been rescheduled. Following consultations with meteorological experts and in light of the current weather patterns, the project team proposed a revised window — Aug 30 to Sept 10 — when monsoon activity was expected to recede. ■



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

SPICEJET PLANE'S WHEEL FALLS OFF AFTER TAKE-OFF FROM KANDLA



In a major scare, a Mumbai-bound SpiceJet Q400 plane's wheel fell off after take-off from Kandla airport on Friday and the aircraft with 75 people onboard made an emergency landing here, according to officials. The aircraft landed safely at 3.51 pm and all passengers and crew are safe, Mumbai airport operator MIAL said. Operations at the airport were briefly impacted. The flight departed at 2.38 pm against the scheduled time of 1.25 pm from Kandla and landed in Mumbai at 3.51 pm, as per information available on flight tracking website Flightradar24.Com.



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

उड़ान भरने के बाद गिरा विमान का पहिया, मुंबई में हुई इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग स्पाइसजेट ने कहा, सभी 75 यात्री और चालक दल सुरक्षित हैं

■ पीटीआई, मुंबई

कांडला (गुजरात) से मुंबई आ रहे स्पाइसजेट के एक विमान में शुक्रवार को बड़ा हादसा टल गया। उड़ान भरने के तुरंत बाद विमान का एक पहिया गिर गया, लेकिन पायलट ने सूझबूझ से विमान को मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग कराई। इस विमान में 75 यात्री और चालक दल के सदस्य मौजूद थे।

एयरपोर्ट ऑपरेटर एमआइएल के अनुसार, विमान ने दोपहर 2:38 बजे कांडला से उड़ान भरी थी और तय समय से देर 3:51 बजे मुंबई में उतरा। विमान बॉम्बार्डियर Q400 था, जिसे आमतौर पर छोटी दूरी की उड़ानों के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। उड़ान के दौरान एयर टैफिक कंट्रोलर ने पायलट को जानकारी दी कि विमान का पिछला दायां पहिया उड़ान भरते समय रनवे पर गिर गया है। इसके बाद पूरे विमान



के लिए इमरजेंसी घोषित कर दी गई। 'रनवे पर मिला पहिया' स्पाइसजेट ने अपने बयान में कहा कि विमान का बाहरी पहिया उड़ान भरने के बाद रनवे पर पाया गया, लेकिन विमान ने यात्रा पूरी की और सुरक्षित लैंडिंग की।

अधिकारियों ने बताया कि सौभाग्य से विमान का लैंडिंग गियर सही तरीके से काम कर रहा था, जिसकी वजह से सुरक्षित उतरना संभव हुआ।

- विमान ने दोपहर 2:38 बजे कांडला से उड़ान भरी थी और तय समय से देर 3:51 बजे मुंबई में उतरा।
- उड़ान के दौरान एयर टैफिक कंट्रोलर ने पायलट को जानकारी दी कि विमान का पिछला दायां पहिया उड़ान भरते समय रनवे पर गिर गया है।

मुंबई एयरपोर्ट ने भी पुष्टि की कि कांडला से आया एक विमान तकनीकी खराबी के चलते आपातकालीन स्थिति में उतरा। सभी यात्री और कर्मी सुरक्षित हैं और थोड़ी देर बाद हवाईअड्डे पर सामान्य संचालन फिर से शुरू हो गया। हाल के महीनों में स्पाइसजेट विमानों में कई तकनीकी दिक्कतें सामने आई हैं। जुलाई में गोवा से पुणे जा रही एक उड़ान के दौरान विमान की खिड़की का फ्रेम हवा में ही निकल गया था।



Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

मुख्यमंत्री ने केंद्रीय मंत्री से उत्तराखण्ड में हवाई सेवाओं के विस्तार पर की चर्चा

हेली सेवा पुनः प्रारंभ होने से चारधाम यात्रा होगी सुगम

❖ जौलीग्रंट में रात्रिकालीन हवाई सेवा आरंभ करने का किया अनुरोध

पायनियर समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली

उत्तराखण्ड के मुख्यमंत्री श्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री श्री किजरापु राममोहन नायडू से भेंट कर राज्य में विमानन क्षेत्र के विकास, हवाई सम्पर्क में सुधार एवं पर्यटन को नई गति देने से संबंधित महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर विस्तृत चर्चा की।

मुख्यमंत्री ने राज्य को विमानन क्षेत्र में मिले सहयोग के लिए केंद्रीय मंत्री का प्रदेशवासियों की ओर से आभार व्यक्त किया। उन्होंने विशेष रूप से प्रदेश के हवाई अड्डों पर स्थानीय उत्पादों को बढ़ावा देने हेतु अम्बेला ब्राण्ड 'हाउस ऑफ हिमालयान' के अंतर्गत स्थापित स्वयं सेवा केन्द्र की पहल की प्रशंसा की, जिससे स्थानीय उत्पादों को राष्ट्रीय एवं अंतरराष्ट्रीय मंच पर पहचान मिली है। मुख्यमंत्री ने राज्य में मानसून के समाप्त होते ही चारधाम यात्रा के

लिए हेली सेवाओं को पुनः प्रारंभ करने की योजना से केंद्रीय मंत्री को अवगत कराया। यह सेवाएं विशेष रूप से बुजुर्ग, दिव्यांग एवं असमर्थ श्रद्धालुओं के लिए अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। राज्य सरकार एवं केंद्र सरकार के संबंधित विभागों के बीच इस विषय में समन्वय जारी है। 01 सितम्बर को आयोजित उच्चस्तरीय बैठक में हेली सेवाओं के संचालन के लिए कई महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव प्राप्त हुए।

मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि श्रद्धालुओं की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करते हुए हेली सेवाओं का पुनः संचालन यात्रा को सहज बनाएगा एवं सड़क मार्गों पर दबाव कम करेगा। मुख्यमंत्री ने केंद्रीय मंत्री को अवगत कराया कि राज्य का 70 प्रतिशत से अधिक क्षेत्र वनाच्छादित है। उन्होंने बताया कि पर्वतीय जिलों में हवाई सम्पर्क न केवल आवश्यक है, बल्कि पर्यटन, नागरिक आवागमन तथा आपदा प्रबंधन के दृष्टिकोण से भी अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। मुख्यमंत्री ने गौचर (चमोली) एवं चिन्यालीसौण (उत्तरकाशी) हवाई पट्टियों को छोटे विमान संचालन के लिए विकसित करने एवं इन्हें दिल्ली, देहरादून तथा

हिंडन से जोड़ने का अनुरोध किया। इससे चारधाम यात्रा की सुविधा बढ़ेगी एवं पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में आवश्यक वस्तुओं की आपूर्ति सुगम होगी। जौलीग्रंट हवाई अड्डे पर रात्रिकालीन हवाई सेवा के संचालन हेतु अनुरोध किया गया, जिससे अधिक यात्रियों को विमान सेवा का लाभ मिल सके। मुख्यमंत्री ने पंतनगर एयरपोर्ट के विस्तारिकरण को लेकर भी चर्चा की और बताया कि राज्य सरकार द्वारा अधिकांश आवश्यक कार्य पूर्ण कर लिए गए हैं।

उन्होंने भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण को शीघ्र कार्य प्रारंभ करने हेतु निर्देशित करने का अनुरोध किया। मुख्यमंत्री ने केंद्रीय मंत्री से क्षेत्रीय सम्पर्क योजना के तहत दिल्ली से पिथौरागढ़ के लिए सीधी हवाई सेवा शीघ्र प्रारंभ करने का अनुरोध करते हुए बताया कि राज्य के पर्यटन के साथ-साथ सामरिक एवं मानवीय दृष्टिकोण से भी हवाई सेवा लाभकारी सिद्ध होगी। मुख्यमंत्री ने चिन्यालीसौण और गौचर हवाई पट्टी का निरीक्षण कर हवाई सेवा का संचालन किये जाने हेतु कार्यवाही प्रारंभ करने का केन्द्रीय मंत्री से अनुरोध किया।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

DELHI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Amit Shah inaugurates fast-track immigration facilities at five airports

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 11 September

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday inaugurated the Fast Track Immigration - Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) at Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Kozhikode, and Amritsar airports through video conferencing from the national capital.

The facility was first launched in 2024 from Delhi, followed by its implementation at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Kochi, and Ahmedabad airports, and now, five new airports have been added.

Shah, as per an official statement, said that it will not only enhance the convenience of travellers but also provide an opportunity to introduce them to the changes taking place in the country.

The FTI-TTP is a programme that enhances both convenience and national security, the minister said after inaugurating the facility.

The minister said that the process is now operational

at a total of 13 airports simultaneously.

He also added that the Ministry of Home Affairs has planned to integrate this programme with the upcoming Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports.

The minister mentioned that all those who have used this facility so far have praised it.

Travellers now experience no long queues or manual checking, receiving immigration clearance in just 30 seconds without delays, he added.

The minister also said that approximately 3 lakh travellers have registered on the portal, of which 2.65 lakh have utilised it during travel, and efforts should be made to continuously increase this number.

Shah said that under the leadership of PM Modi, over the past 11 years, there has been significant increase in international passenger traffic.

He said the next stage of enhancing travellers' convenience, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Speed, Scale, and Scope, starts today with this programme.



SpiceJet plane loses a wheel on take-off but lands safely

Manju.V@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: A Mumbai-bound SpiceJet aircraft's wheel rolled off during take-off roll at Gujarat's Kandla on Friday. The pilots continued with the flight, and the aircraft landed safely at Mumbai airport where a 'full emergency' was declared as a precaution. No injuries were reported.

The incident occurred around 2.40pm when the aircraft was speeding for departure from runway 23 of Kandla airport. The Bombardier DHC-8-400 has a tricycle landing gear system with a total of six wheels — two wheels on the nose gear and two main wheels on each of the main landing gear. A video of the incident, taken by a passenger on board, showed the outer wheel of the right hand side landing gear roll off just as the aircraft lifted off the runway. The errant wheel could be seen rolling off the runway into the unpaved portion, while the aircraft climbed and the lone remaining wheel on the right



A video grab of the incident

retracted into the landing gear bay. A man could be heard saying, "Wheel nikal gaya" (Wheel came off).

"During take-off, the tower controller at Kandla air traffic control observed a black coloured big object separating from the aircraft. A jeep sent for inspection found an intact wheel and metal rings," said a source. An aircraft maintenance engineer said a wheel could come off because of a number of reasons, such as problem with the locking device, under-torqued axle nut, bearing seizure, improper

wheel installation or fatigue leading to failure of retention hardware.

SpiceJet confirmed the incident. "An outer wheel of a SpiceJet Q400 aircraft operating from Kandla to Mumbai was found at the runway after take-off. The aircraft continued its journey to Mumbai and landed safely," said a SpiceJet spokesperson.

A Mumbai airport spokesperson said an aircraft from Kandla made an emergency landing at 3.51pm, after the pilots reported a technical issue. "A full emergency was declared as a precaution. The aircraft landed safely on runway 27. Normal operations resumed shortly after." In a 'full emergency', medical and emergency services such as fire brigades, ambulances are on standby when the aircraft lands.

Last Sept, the Indian aviation regulator had placed SpiceJet under enhanced surveillance after a special audit found deficiencies in its engineering facilities.



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THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Delhi govt plans artificial rain trial by mid-Oct

New Delhi: Delhi govt is planning to conduct an artificial rain trial by Oct 15.

The environment department has been monitoring the atmospheric conditions. It has asked the Met department for updates on monsoon status and withdrawal date, so that it can apply to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for a new time window to start cloud-seeding operations.

Environment minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said that the department will conduct the trial after monsoon to ensure best output. He, however, said the final time window is likely to be decided on the basis of atmospheric data trends and scientific assessment of cloud conditions.

The initiative aims to address concerns related to dwindling groundwater levels and rising air pollution in the capital post monsoon.

At a press conference in July, Sirsa had announced that the date for the trial had been postponed due to the arrival of monsoon. The trial was then deferred till Aug-end as rain may not provide ideal conditions and can prevent the desired results.

The operation is to be conducted by IIT-Kanpur's department of aerospace engineering, in coordination with experts from Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, and India Meteorological Department, using a Cessna 206-H aircraft (VT-IIT).

"All necessary authorisations, including aerial-work clearance from DGCA, have already been obtained. The operation will follow all safety and environmental guidelines," Sirsa said earlier, adding that no photographer will be allowed during the process in compliance with standard operating procedures. #7



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AHMEDABAD

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

Akasa Air plans move to T2

Ahmedabad: Akasa Air is set to move its operations from Terminal 1 (T1) to Terminal 2 (T2) of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) airport by 2026.

Sources said the relocation is part of a wider effort to optimise passenger movement and operational efficiency, particularly as Terminal 2 undergoes significant expansion to function as a fully integrated hub for both domestic and international flights. While an official date for Akasa Air's shift has not been announced, sources indicate the move will align with the airport's long-term strategy to boost operational efficiency. TNN



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MUMBAI

12 SEPTEMBER 2025

AI, IndiGo fly 24 flights, ferry 2.8k passengers

Air India and IndiGo operated 12 flights each between India (mostly Delhi) and Kathmandu on Thursday, ferrying about 2,800 passengers. AI operated a Delhi-Kathmandu-Delhi flight on Wednesday night, transporting about 300 people. All of AI's flights on Wednesday and Thursday were between Delhi and Kathmandu. IndiGo operated three return flights between Delhi and Kathmandu and one between Mumbai and Kathmandu. It also operated a Delhi-Kathmandu-Visakhapatnam-Tirupati-Delhi charter-cum-additional commercial flight. **TNN**