



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

16 JANUARY 2025

Hosur airport to span 2,000 acres and have two runways; second level of study to finalise site begins

Sunitha Sekar

CHENNAI

With two runways, the Hosur airport will be built over 2,000 acres. The second level of the study of the two shortlisted sites has begun.

While the first site is situated 1.5 km from the private airstrip operated by Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Limited (TAAL), the second one is 15.5 km away, near Ulagam (east of Hosur and north of Shoolagiri), sources said.

The Tamil Nadu govern-

After the State government finalises the site, it would have to obtain permission from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and the Ministry of Defence

ment announced in June last year that it would build an airport at Hosur in Krishnagiri district, which is home to numerous automobile and manufacturing units. As it is close to Bengaluru, resi-

dents of the southern parts of the city may find it easier to access Hosur airport.

In September, teams from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) studied five sites – TAAL, 1.5 km south of Hosur airstrip; the one near Ulagam; a site near Thogarai Agraharam; another one near Ulagam; and the last site near Dhasapalli.

After carrying out a feasibility study, AAI presented a draft report de-

tailoring the pros and cons of each site. Based on its recommendations, two sites were shortlisted by the State government and communicated to AAI.

AAI has now begun the study to delve further into each of the two sites, and its report would be ready in two months, sources said.

After the State government finalises the site, it would have to obtain permission from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and the Ministry of Defence. “Once the site is decided,

the next step will be land acquisition for the project,” a source said.

The State government has also held discussions with Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), but sources said it was not clear if BIAL would be interested in Hosur airport. Since BIAL had an agreement with the Centre under which no international airport shall be constructed within a 150-km aerial distance till 2033, Tamil Nadu decided to hold meetings with them first.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

16 JANUARY 2025

Faster immigration clearance at 7 more airports from Jan. 16

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JAN. 15

A fast-track immigration process for pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders will be rolled out at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and four other major airports from Thursday. Union home minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the "fast track immigration" — Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) for the seven airports from Ahmedabad on Thursday.

On June 20 last year, he had launched the FTI-TTP from Terminal-3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in New Delhi.

In the initial phase, it has been started for Indian nationals and OCI cardholders on a gratis basis. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the 'Fast Track Immigration — Trusted Traveller Programme' is a significant initiative under the

'Viksit Bharat'@2047 vision. Its objective is to provide world-class immigration facilities to travellers, making international travel seamless and secure," the home ministry said in a statement.

The FTI-TTP has been implemented through an online portal: <https://ftittp.mha.gov.in>. To enrol in this programme, applicants need to complete online registration by filling in their details and uploading the required documents on the portal.

The biometric data of the 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 the arrival and departure points, the passenger's biometrics will be authenticated at the e-gates. Once this authenti-

cation is successful, the e-gate will automatically open, and immigration clearance will be deemed granted.

The FTI-TTP is similar to the global entry programme offered by the United States that allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travellers upon arrival in America in select airports, an official said.

It is designed for faster, smoother and safer immigration clearance for international travellers. Eligible passengers will be allowed to utilise e-gates and bypass regular immigration queues for a seamless journey.

The FTI registration will be valid for a maximum of five years or until the validity of the passport, whichever comes first. Biometrics is compulsory for the completion of the application processing.

The applicants may ensure a minimum passport validity of at least six months while applying for the FTI-TTP.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

Mumbai airport sets new record by moving 54.8 m passengers in 2024

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Mumbai airport handled over 54.8 million passengers in CY 2024, the highest ever to date.

This was 6.3 per cent higher than in 2023 and 19.4 per cent more than in 2019.

Traffic growth was led by a 3.2 per cent increase in flights, the deployment of more high-capacity aircraft and better seat occupancy. For instance, IndiGo is operating more high-density Airbus A321 aircraft with 232 seats than in previous years.

While Delhi, Bengaluru and Goa were the busiest domestic destinations, Dubai, London and Abu Dhabi took the top three spots on the international side.



KEY MILESTONE. December peaked with passenger traffic of about 1.7 lakh on a single day and 50.5 lakh for the month

In a statement, Mumbai airport said 2024 was an outstanding year marked by significant growth and key milestones in passenger traffic and operational efficiency.

It recorded its highest single-day passenger movement on December 21, handling around 1,70,000 passengers.

December also emerged as

the busiest month, with 5.05 million passengers, a 3.4 per cent growth over December 2023.

New international destinations added include Tashkent and Almaty in Central Asia. New domestic routes added last year include Deoghar, Rajahmundry, Tirupati, Ayodhya and Vijayawada.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

भोपाल एयरपोर्ट की रैंकिंग में 27 अंक की छलांग, 42 से 15वें नंबर पर आया

भास्कर न्यूज़ | भोपाल

देश भर के 62 एयरपोर्ट पर हुए सर्वे में भोपाल की 15वीं रैंक आई है। साल 2024 के सर्वे के दूसरे राउंड के जारी रिजल्ट में भोपाल को 5 में से 4.74 अंक मिले हैं। जुलाई में राउंड 1 के रिजल्ट में भोपाल को केवल 3.70

अंक मिले थे और रैंक 43 थी। इस सर्वे में मद्रास का खजुराहो 8 वें और ग्वालियर 10 वें नंबर पर है। इंदौर एयरपोर्ट इस सर्वे में शामिल नहीं होता है क्योंकि वह इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट है। इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट का सर्वे अलग होता है। यह सर्वे जुलाई से दिसंबर तक किया गया था। इसके लिए एयरपोर्ट

की सुविधाओं का 33 पैरामीटर पर परीक्षण किया गया और यात्रियों से भी फीडबैक लिया गया था। खास बात यह है कि 2023 में हुए इसी तरह के सर्वे में भोपाल दोनों राउंड में नंबर 1 पर था। इस हिसाब से भोपाल को अभी अपनी पुरानी स्थिति पाने के लिए अभी और सुधार की जरूरत है। सर्वे के

रिजल्ट को देखें तो भोपाल ने सभी 33 पैरामीटर में सुधार किया है। सबसे ज्यादा सुधार यहां रेस्त्रां में मिलने वाली खान-पान सामग्री के रेट में आया है। खान-पान सामग्री के उचित मूल्य की कैटेगरी में राउंड 1 में 2.99 नंबर मिले थे और राउंड 2 में यह बढ़ कर 4.66 हो गए। यानी 1.67 का सुधार आया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

■ Mumbai Airport Logs 6.3% Traffic Growth in '24



MUMBAI: Mumbai International Airport logged a 6.3% year-on-year growth in passenger traffic at

5.48 crore in 2024, the private airport operator Mumbai International Airport (MIAL) said on Thursday. The passenger traffic at the airport was recorded at 5.16 crore in 2023, it said. The airport also recorded 346,617 air traffic movements, or departures and arrivals, marking a 3.2% increase over the previous year.

PRIMACY TO CAPE TOWN CONVENTION IN CASE OF CONFLICT WITH LOCAL LAWS

Cabinet OKs Bill Making it Easier for Lessors to Take Back Aircraft

Bill reduces moratorium period to max 40 days after airline is admitted for bankruptcy

Arindam Majumder

New Delhi: The Union cabinet Thursday approved the Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill which will allow global aircraft leasing companies to repossess planes of Indian airlines in case of default in lease rental payments.

The bill will give primacy to the Cape Town Convention in the event of conflict with any other local law, primarily the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. It will now be presented during the next session of the Parliament.

People familiar with the matter said the bill reduces the moratorium period to a maximum of 40 days after an airline is admitted for bankruptcy. This compares with the global convention of 60-day moratorium. Lessors recovering their aircraft will have to clear pending dues like airport charges and fuel supplier bills for up to 60 days.

The government felt a sense of urgency to introduce the bill after the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) ruling in

Wind of Change

Three Indian airlines have gone bankrupt in the last decade

2012	Kingfisher Airlines
2019	Jet Airways
2023	Go First



▶ **The Bill**, when passed in parliament, will allow lessors to repossess planes within 40 days after bankruptcy

▶ **The govt pushed** the Bill after aircraft lessors got stuck in long legal battles trying to repossess Go First aircraft

▶ **Insolvency resolutions** drag for a long time in India causing losses to lessors

CLEAR DUES

Lessors recovering aircraft will have to clear dues like airport charges and fuel bills for up to 60 days

Go First's case which put a moratorium on lessors to repossess aircraft. Lessors were stuck in protracted court battles as they tried to recover aircraft leased to the bankrupt

budget carrier, besides increasing the lease rentals for other Indian airlines.

The NCLT ruling impacted the confidence of lessors, which are backed by top banks and financing companies, sparking a rise in risk premiums for other Indian airlines, inflating their operating cost.

The Aviation Working Group (AWG), a global aviation leasing body comprising major aircraft manufacturers and lessors, last week further downgraded India as lessors have not been able to repossess their planes from Go First more than

four months after the airline filed for insolvency.

Following that the Ministry of Corporate Affairs issued a notification giving exemption to aircraft and aircraft engines from the mandatory moratorium.

Insolvency resolutions in India tend to continue for long periods, impacting aircraft leasing companies in the instance of Go First due to a moratorium. Data from the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India shows that till December, 610 cases have been resolved under IBC and the average time taken was more than 600 days.

Although India acceded to the Cape Town Convention in 2008, there are no underlying domestic laws to enforce the provisions of the convention. Therefore, in the event of a conflict with any domestic airline, the latter prevails. Lessors, however, don't give importance to this accession as it is not backed by legislation.

A process to introduce the bill has been pending for three years. While a draft of the bill was floated multiple times, the Ministry of Civil Aviation hasn't been able to table it in Parliament.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के नजदीक औद्योगिक गलियारा बनेगा

लखनऊ, विशेष संवाददाता। जेवर एयरपोर्ट को गंगा एक्सप्रेसवे से जोड़ने वाले नए लिंक ग्रीनफील्ड एक्सप्रेसवे के दोनों ओर औद्योगिक गलियारा भी विकसित होगा। यहां नई औद्योगिक इकाइयों को जमीन उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी।

जेवर एयरपोर्ट, चोला रेलवे स्टेशन और गंगा व यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे से नजदीकी के कारण यहां निवेशकों और निर्यातकों को काफी सहूलियत होगी। यहां औद्योगिक और आर्थिक गतिविधियां भी तेज होंगी।

यूपीडा ने अपने पूर्व के प्रस्ताव में संशोधन किया है और इसे यूपीडा

- 76 किमी के विकल्प को शासन से मिली मंजूरी
- यूपीडा बोर्ड ने प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी है

बोर्ड ने मंजूरी दी है। पहले इसे यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे से 48 किलोमीटर आगे से शुरू होना था। यह एक्सप्रेसवे अब यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे के 24.8 किलोमीटर से शुरू होगा। इस तरह अब केवल 76 किलोमीटर एक्सप्रेसवे बनाने की जरूरत होगी। पहले इसे 86 किमी तक बनाया जाना था।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

SHAH ROLLS OUT FASTER PROCESS FOR IMMIGRATION AT SEVEN AIRPORTS

HTC and agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday launched a fast-track immigration system for pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders at seven airports.

The programme, called the “Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme” (FTI- TTP), was launched at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Cochin and Ahmedabad airports.

The FTI-TTP is a significant step to provide world-class immigration facilities to travellers, making international travel seamless and secure, an official release said. “The initiative is currently running at Indira Gandhi International Airport after it was launched there in June last year. Now, it is being introduced in seven other airports, including Ahmedabad. In all, the government plans to start this programme at 21 major airports in the first phase,” it said.

Shah, on X, said, “This new facility will allow the citizens and OCI cardholders registered under the program to circumvent the queues in the airports and avail themselves of immigration clearance instantly by merely scanning their passports and boarding passes at e-gates.”



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

16 JANUARY 2025

Tenders to choose concessionaire for Parandur airport to be floated soon

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tenders to choose the concessionaire, who will build and manage the second airport planned at Parandur in Kancheepuram district, will be floated by the end of March.

“The draft of the tender has been prepared and is being vetted by a team. We are hoping to get the in-principle approval from the Centre by next month. Once it comes through, we will be ready to float the

bids to select the concessionaire,” a source said.

A high-level meeting was held last week and the State government reviewed the rehabilitation packages planned for the villagers who would be affected by the project, the sources said. The Madras School of Social Work has been working closely with the government in preparing these packages.

The Parandur airport project, proposed at ₹29,144 crore, will be constructed over 2,172.73 hec-

tares. Out of nearly 1,000 houses that will be affected due to the airport project, around 600 houses fall under the Ekanapuram village. “[Due to stiff opposition from the farmers and villagers], they are not able to interact much and understand their needs,” he added. The rehabilitation package is likely to be ready within six months.

The survey and master-plan work for the new sites, where residents of 13 villages, who are affected by the airport project will

be moved to, is also in progress, another source said.

Meanwhile, the steering committee of the Centre comprising various members has asked the State government to submit a series of reports as part of the process to get the environmental clearance.

“We were waiting for the monsoon to get over and the studies have just begun. It could take about six months to complete and submit the reports to the steering committee,” another source said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

समझौते में एयरपोर्ट को मिलीं तीन सुविधा

- 750 मीटर लंबी रोड, दो सब स्टेशन और 4 एमएलडी का हाइड्रो एक्सट्रैक्शन

पायनियर समाचार सेवा। नोएडा

प्रदेश सरकार ने यमुना इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के साथ किए गए अपने समझौते को पूरा कर लिया है। ये समझौता मार्च 2021 में प्रदेश सरकार और एयरपोर्ट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के बीच किया गया था।

समझौते के तहत इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर जरूरी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर जिसमें एयरपोर्ट की सड़क कनेक्टिविटी, पानी, बिजली और वेस्टेज पानी की निकासी की सुविधाओं को देना था। इसमें से अधिकांश कार्य को पूरा किया जा चुका है। इसमें नेशनल हाइवे अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया ने एयरपोर्ट तक सीधे पहुंच के लिए 750 मीटर सड़क तैयार की है। इसे एयरपोर्ट ऑफ अथारिटी से नो

आब्जेक्शन सर्टिफिकेट की प्रतीक्षा है। वहीं एयरपोर्ट के एंटी पाइंट से टर्मिनल भवन को जोड़ने वाली शेष का रोड का निर्माण एयरपोर्ट कंपनी की ओर से कराया जाएगा।

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के ओएसडी और एयरपोर्ट के नोडल अधिकारी, शैलेन्द्र भाटिया ने कहा कि राज्य सरकार ने समझौते के तहत एप्रोच रोड के रूप में 200 करोड़ की लागत से आठ-लेन की एलिवेटेड सड़क बनाई।

जल आपूर्ति के लिए 13 करोड़ की लागत से फलेदा खादर में 4 एमएलडी हाइड्रो- एक्सट्रैक्शन का निर्माण किया गया। वहीं भविष्य की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए एक और 4 एमएलडी क्षमता का प्लांट पर काम चल रहा है। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि ये दोनों प्लांट एयरपोर्ट के तीसरे फेज में सालाना 50 मिलियन मुसाफिरों की आवश्यकता को पूरा करेगा। नोएडा एयरपोर्ट में बिजली की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए सेक्टर 18 और 32 में दो सबस्टेशन नामित किए गए हैं। सालाना 12 मिलियन यात्रियों की क्षमता वाले पहले चरण के लिए बिजली की आवश्यकता 19 मेगावाट है।

Loop will allow you to drive from tunnel road to Aerocity

\$2 BILLION INVESTMENT

Current Worldmark Aerocity covers 15 lakh sq ft, with 50,000 daily footfall from those working in offices, hotels, F&B, retail & visitors

By the end of 2025, an additional 40 lakh sq ft of office space will open, significantly increasing footfall

DIAL is constructing a loop road to connect the runway tunnel directly to Aerocity, expected to complete in a year

By March 2027, India's largest mall, spanning 30 lakh sq ft, will open, boosting daily footfall tenfold

A multi-modal transport hub is being developed, featuring metro lines, RRTS, bus connectivity. Upcoming air train's Aerocity station is also likely be close to this hub

1 2 3 > Operational Worldmark
 4 5 6 7 > To open later this year
 8 > Worldmall to open by 2027 9 > Future development

Saurabh.Sinha
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New Delhi: Preparations are on at IGI Airport's Aerocity to handle the hugely increased footfall it will receive before the year-end when the second phase of this global business district (GBD) opens.

A loop is being built that will lead motorists coming from the T1 side straight from further down the tunnel under the runway to Aerocity, SK Sayal, MD & CEO of Bharti Real Estate, which is building this GBD with an investment of \$2 billion, told **TOI** on Thursday.

The focus is on connectivity as Delhi airport is India's biggest aviation hub that handles over 7 crore passengers annually. It can almost double its capacity and its Aerocity is also coming up proportionately.

The currently operational Aerocity is spread over 15 lakh square feet and houses three office buildings (Worldmark 1, 2 & 3), 11 hotels and a metro station. "As of now, the daily footfall is about 50,000

people working in offices & hotels here and visitors. Before the end of this calendar year, four more office buildings will open in an additional 40 lakh square feet that will also have some retail portion. DIAL is building a loop that will allow people to drive straight from the tunnel road (from the T1 side) to Aerocity that should be ready in about a year. Then by March 2027, India's biggest mall at 30 lakh square feet (Worldmall) will open here. Footfall will rise about tenfold in 2027-28 from the current levels," Sayal said.

Given the congestion on Delhi-NCR roads, especially the major pain point that Gurgaon E'way has become, govt is working on ensuring all other modes of transport, like several lines of Delhi Metro and RRTS (Alwar-Sarai Kale Khan), converge at IGIA.

The GMR-backed Delhi International Airport Ltd is in the process of building an air train linking T1, T2/3, cargo and Aerocity. It is learnt that the last date for sending requests for proposals (RFPs) for

this air train has been extended to this month-end and the plan is to have it up and running by 2027-28.

"The air train station is going to be interconnected to the multi-modal transport hub being built by DIAL near Aerocity," Sayal said. The upcoming hub will provide integrated connectivity for Delhi Metro, RRTS, an ISBT and the air train to cater to the eventual peak capacity of IGIA that could be about 14 crore passengers annually within the next decade, and serve as the gateway to Aerocity that will soon see four more primarily office complexes (Worldmark 4, 5, 6 & 7); the mall, two more hotels and the transit hub.

"Aerocity is our statement to the world that speaks about the long way India has come and the direction in which our country is headed. Our aim is to bring India's finest GBD to life. It is designed to be the gateway for those looking to set up base in India. Delhi will get the business, entertainment, shopping and leisure destination of the future here," Sayal said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

Delhi airport saw highest ever traffic in 2024:

At almost 8 crore, Delhi airport handled its highest ever passenger traffic last year. While the 7.8 crore flyers in 2024 was 8.3% higher than previous year's 7.2 crore,

international traffic rose by almost 17%, thanks to Air India and IndiGo adding overseas flights. Domestic travellers grew 5.5% over 2023, according to Delhi International Airport Ltd. The country's second busiest airport, Mumbai's

CSMIA, saw 5.5 crore passengers (domestic and international) last year, which is 6.3% more than 2023. DGCA data shows Jan-Nov 2024 saw 14.6 crore domestic flyers, more than 13.8 crore in same period in 2023. TNN



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

16 JANUARY 2025

Fast-track immigration system to be launched at A'bad airport

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Union home minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveler Programme (FTI-TTP) at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) Airport in Ahmedabad on Thursday.

Besides Ahmedabad, this initiative, aimed at expediting immigration clearance, will be simultaneously rolled out at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Cochin.

The FTI-TTP, initially launched at Delhi's IGI Airport in 2024, targets pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders and ensures seamless and secure international travel.

Enrolment is completed through an online portal, where travellers provide personal and biometric data. Once registered, passengers bypass traditional queues by scanning their boarding passes and passports at automated e-gates. Biometric authentication

finalises the process, granting immigration clearance within moments.

The FTI-TTP will eventually expand to 21 major airports nationwide, providing faster, smoother immigration services similar to the United States' Global Entry Program.

The programme will be implemented in two phases. In the first phase, Indian citizens and OCI cardholders will be covered, and in the second phase, foreign travellers will be covered.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

16 JANUARY 2025

Shah to launch fast track immigration programme at 7 major airports today

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Expanding the 'Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme', which enables faster immigration for pre-verified flyers through automated e-gates based on their biometric authentication, home minister **Amit Shah** will on Thursday launch the service at the airports in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Cochin, and Ahmedabad.



The programme is already running successfully at Indira Gandhi International airport here since June 22, 2024.

A senior home ministry official had earlier told **TOI** that the FTI-TTP has enabled 60% faster immigration clearance for those who have enrolled for it. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, the 'Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme' is a significant initiative under the 'Viksit Bharat@2047' vision. Its objective is to provide world-class immigration facilities to travellers, making international travel seamless and secure," the home ministry said in a release.

Both Indian citizens and OCI cardholders can avail of the facility free of cost. Shah will inaugurate the FTI-TTP facility at the new airports from Ahmedabad, taking the total number of airports covered so far to eight. The plan is to further expand the programme to cover 21 major airports across the country.

The FTI-TTP has been implemented through a portal: <https://ftittp.mha.gov.in>. To enroll, applicants need to complete online registration by filling in their details and uploading the required documents on the portal.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

16 JANUARY 2025

Fast-track immigration system to be launched at 7 airports today

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Union home minister **Amit Shah** will on Thursday inaugurate the Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) Airport here. This initiative, aimed at expediting immigration clearance, will simultaneously roll out at seven major airports — Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Cochin.

FTI-TTP, initially launched at Delhi's IGI Airport in

2024, targets pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders and ensures seamless and secure international travel for them.

Enrolment is completed through an online portal, where travellers provide personal and biometric data. Once registered, passengers bypass traditional queues by scanning their boarding passes and passports at automated e-gates.

Biometric authentication finalises the process, granting immigration clearance in moments.

Designed to minimise human intervention, this sy-

stem enhances security and efficiency. FTI-TTP will eventually expand to 21 major airports nationwide, providing faster, smoother immigration services similar to the United States' Global Entry Program. Initially free, the programme requires applicants to have a passport valid for at least six months. Registration is valid for five years or until the passport expires, whichever comes first.

The programme will be implemented in two phases. In the first phase, Indian citizens and OCI cardholders will be covered, and in the second phase, foreign travellers will be covered.





Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

विमान में सोने के आभूषण ले जाने के लिए बैगेज नियमों की समीक्षा का आग्रह

नई दिल्ली। उच्च न्यायालय ने हवाई यात्रियों से सोने के आभूषण जब्त किए जाने पर चिंताओं के बाद बैगेज नियम 2016 की समीक्षा का आह्वान किया। न्यायमूर्ति प्रतिभा सिंह और धर्मेंश शर्मा की खंडपीठ ने पुराने नियमों के तहत अनुमत सीमा से अधिक आभूषण ले जाने वाले यात्रियों के सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डाला।

पीठ ने कहा वर्तमान में सोने की बाजार दर को देखते हुए बैगेज नियमों पर भी पुनर्विचार की आवश्यकता है। जहां चालीस ग्राम सोने की कीमत 100 रुपये की मूल्य सीमा से कहीं अधिक होगी। बैगेज नियम 5 के तहत 1,00,000 रुपये की सीमा निर्धारित की गई है। 1,00,000 की अधिकतम सीमा के साथ, खरीदा जा सकने वाला सोना केवल 15 ग्राम के आसपास हो सकता है।

पीठ ने यह भी पाया कि सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों के पास मनमानी शक्तियां हैं जिनका उपयोग वास्तविक यात्रियों को परेशान करने के लिए किया जा सकता है। इस प्रकार केंद्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड (सीबीआईसी) के अध्यक्ष से आग्रह किया गया कि यह सुनिश्चित करें कि भारत में आने वाले पर्यटकों और यात्रियों, चाहे वे भारतीय हों या विदेशी को परेशान न किया जाए। व्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

In a boost to aviation sector, govt clears Aircraft Leasing Bill

AIMING HIGH. Approval to lower leasing, financing costs of aircraft for Indian carriers

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

To usher in further reforms in the civil aviation sector, the government has approved the Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2024, sources told *businessline*.

Accordingly, the Bill will lower the leasing and financing costs of aircraft for Indian carriers, thereby reducing airfares. At present, the majority of commercial aircraft in India are leased.

The Bill, sources said, was approved by the Cabinet on Thursday. It will now be presented before Parliament. If passed, the resulting Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Act, 2024 will guarantee lessors rights to repossess their leased equipment.

GLOBAL TREATY

In the process, the Act will ratify the Cape Town Con-



CLEAR RUNWAY. The Centre is empowered to make necessary rules for implementing the convention and protocol

vention, which is a global treaty that guarantees lessors' rights to repossess their leased high-value equipment, such as aircraft, helicopters, and engines, in case of payment defaults.

The legal instrument was adopted at a diplomatic conference held in Cape Town in November 2001 under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law.

Notably, India is a signatory to the convention, but

Parliament has not ratified it. This unique situation has given precedence to local courts' judgments over the norms of the convention.

The reworked Bill comes in the wake of the Go First crisis, which made global lessors worry about leasing aircraft to India-based airlines. The country is increasingly being deemed a 'risky jurisdiction.'

INDUSTRY WELCOMES

The Bill said sources, would accord primacy to the provisions of the convention in

case of a conflict with any other law.

It will empower the Centre to make necessary rules for implementing the convention and protocol. This is also expected to boost lessors' confidence in the civil aviation space and reduce lending costs, thereby positively impacting airfares.

The industry has welcomed the development.

"With over 2,700 new airplanes anticipated in India over the next 20 years, the rapidly growing aviation sector requires a robust infrastructure, supportive policies, and strong financing mechanisms. Recognizing the Cape Town Convention under Indian law is vital for the smooth movement of aircraft assets in this fast-growing market. The absence of ratification poses risks for creditors, increasing leasing rates for airlines," Salil Gupte, President, Boeing India and South Asia told *businessline*.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

SpiceJet gets a week to pay \$2.67 mn to lessor

BHAVINI MISHRA

New Delhi, 16 January

The Delhi High Court on Thursday directed SpiceJet to pay \$2.67 million to French engine and aircraft lessor Team France 01 SAS within a week over non-payment of dues for three leased aircraft.

The total amount payable to Team France stands at \$6 million and after the payment of \$2.67 million, the remaining amount of \$3.33 million is to be submitted in the high court in an interest-bearing fixed deposit within three weeks.

Chairman and Managing Director of SpiceJet Ajay Singh appeared before the Delhi High Court, which had summoned him during the last hearing.

The airline's counsel had said last year that there is an admitted default to the extent of \$2.67 million towards the outstanding amount and sought an extension of time. He had also said that they have plans to raise \$357 million. The lessors had filed a case against SpiceJet in December.

The court slammed the airline saying that if they had the financial means to pay, the air-

line wouldn't be defending itself in court. "You are using someone else's property, and you can't use it without paying the rent. He's (lessor) in the

business of letting out that property, whether it's an engine today or a house. Which court allows you to use property without paying?" the court asked.

The airline's counsel last year said that there is an admitted default of \$2.67 million



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE DAILY GUARDIAN

DELHI

16 JANUARY 2025

Air India issues advisory for travel to and from Delhi ahead of Republic Day

TGG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Air India on Wednesday issued an important advisory for its passengers about to travel to and from Delhi, in view of the upcoming Republic Day (January 26) celebrations in the national capital, urging them to maintain a buffer in their commute time and check the status of their flights before leaving for the airport.

"*Important Update Passengers travelling to and from Delhi between 19 & 26 Jan 2025, are requested to allow themselves more time and check the status of their flights before heading to the airport, due to Republic Day restrictions," the airline said in a post on social media platform X (formerly known as Twitter).

"For any further assistance, connect with our contact centre," it added. In another travel advisory posted earlier in the day, Air India had said,



Several planes of Air India on the tarmac at the Indira Gandhi International Airport amid fog. File Photo

"Poor visibility due to dense fog and airport congestion may affect flight operations in Delhi and some other cities today."

The advisory came as a thick layer of fog covered parts of Delhi early in the morning, significantly reducing visibility across the city. The city is experiencing cold waves, which are contributing to elevated levels of air pollution.

The Air quality in the national capital plummeted to the 'very poor' category. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB),

the AQI was recorded at 344 in Delhi today at 7 am. Yesterday, at the same time, it was 252. According to CPCB data, Lodhi Road recorded an AQI of 287 (IITM) and 291 (IMD).

Major Dhyana Chand National Stadium reported 368, Mandir Marg 378, Mundka 372, and NSIT Dwarka 242. Najafgarh recorded 255, Narela 377, Nehru Nagar 394, and North Campus, DU 382 (IMD). Okhla Phase-2 reported an AQI of 380, Patparganj 390, and Pusa recorded 355. RK Puram reported an AQI of 373, Rohini 399, Shadipur 313, and Sirifort 360.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK NAVJYOTI

JAI PUR

16 JANUARY 2025

17 राज्यों में कोहरा, दिल्ली में 26 ट्रेनें लेट, उड़ानों पर भी असर

नई दिल्ली। जम्मू-कश्मीर, हिमाचल प्रदेश, लद्दाख और उत्तराखंड में बर्फबारी के कारण उत्तर भारत और मध्य भारत के राज्यों में सर्दी का असर है। देश के 17 राज्यों में घना कोहरा छाया रहा। दिल्ली में बुधवार सुबह कोहरे से विजिविलिटी ज़ीरो होने के कारण 26 ट्रेनें लेट हुईं। कई फ्लाइट्स भी अपने निर्धारित समय पर उड़ान नहीं भर सकीं। मंगलवार को भी यहां 39 ट्रेनें लेट हुई थीं। उत्तर प्रदेश के भी 45 जिलों में घना कोहरा देखने को मिला। अयोध्या में विजिविलिटी 50 मीटर तक रह गई है। हिमाचल में बर्फबारी के कारण 3 शहरों में तापमान माइनस पहुंच गया है।





Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

Air India issues advisory for travel to and from Delhi ahead of Republic Day

TGG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

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Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

16 JANUARY 2025

NEW DELHI

Customs dept slaps fine on IndiGo

Leading airline IndiGo on Wednesday said the customs department has imposed a fine of little over Rs 25 lakh on the company in relation to duty on jet fuel. The fine has been imposed by the Joint Commissioner (Customs), Office of the Commissioner of Customs, Ludhiana.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

16 JANUARY 2025

Airline halts 12 times in 15 days

Dhairya Gajara

MUMBAI

The only Alliance Air flight connecting Mumbai and Diu has been cancelled 12 times in the last 15 days, leaving passengers frustrated. The daily flight, which lasts one hour, has faced repeated disruptions since the start of the year. Flight 9I 623, departing at 1.55pm and 3.05pm every alternate day, has been cancelled for four consecutive days. Passengers were first told of delays, only to later be informed that the flight was cancelled. This pattern continued until Wednesday. Similarly, Flight 9I 624, connecting Diu to Mumbai, was cancelled all four days as the flight never took off from Mumbai. The route, with a distance of 272km, only has Alliance Air as its carrier.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

16 JANUARY 2025

MORE THAN 300 FLIGHTS DELAYED, SIX DIVERTED DUE TO DENSE FOG

NEW DELHI: Six flights were diverted, more than 300 flights delayed and departures were briefly put on hold at the Delhi airport early morning on Wednesday as low visibility conditions due to dense fog significantly impacted operations. "Runway visibility at Delhi Airport is improving, and flight operations are gradually resuming," airport operator DIAL said in an update on X at 2.20 pm. IndiGo, in a post on X at 3.47 pm, said the fog in Delhi has started to lift, with runway visibility improving. **PTI**

LOW VISIBILITY DUE TO DENSE FOG SIGNIFICANTLY HIT OPERATIONS



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025



The Delhi HC ordered the budget airline to pay Team France within a week. PH

SpiceJet told to pay \$2.67 mn to lessor

The Delhi High Court on Thursday ordered budget airline SpiceJet to pay \$2.67 million to Team France within a week for using the aircraft lessor's three engines. The payment is part of a larger outstanding default of \$6 million owed by the airline.

Justice Anish Dayal, presiding over a single bench, also instructed SpiceJet to deposit an additional \$335,999 with the court registrar within three weeks.

SpiceJet's chairman and managing director Ajay Singh, along with chief financial officer Joyakesh Podder, who was present in the courtroom, gave an undertaking to pay the amounts. This was in response to a summons issued by the court in December, requiring the SpiceJet executives to appear in person.

SpiceJet had requested the court to allow them to settle the default by issuing listed shares of the firm, citing a cash crunch. **KRISHNA YADAV**



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

17 JANUARY 2025

Cabinet okays Cape Town Convention Bill

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: India has finally made it easier for aircraft and engine lessors to take their assets from airlines that go bust — and prevent more GoAir kind of holdups. The Union Cabinet has approved the “Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2024 (Cape Town Convention Bill)” — a move that may bring down leasing costs for airlines.

The aviation ministry had six years back sought comments on the Cape Town Convention (CTC) Bill 2018 to implement the treaty India had signed in 2008 to basically assure lessors their expensive assets like aircraft and engines will not get stuck here when Indian carriers default on paying rentals or go belly up. The delay meant that lessors had to wage lengthy legal battles to get their planes and engines back from Wadia Group’s erstwhile GoAir.