



Corporate Communications Directorate

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DELHI

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House panel raises concerns over flight delays at IGI airport

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: A parliamentary standing committee has expressed concerns over mounting flight delays at Delhi's Indra Gandhi International (IGI) airport, where the closure of one runway has created widespread disruptions, according to people familiar with the matter.

The Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, which convened on Thursday to review the Airports Authority of India's (AAI) operational efficiency and service quality, reportedly shifted its focus to address growing passenger inconvenience at Delhi and other airports nationwide.

People privy to the discussions revealed that the closure of runway 28 at Delhi airport has triggered a ripple effect across India's aviation network. "In just ten days since the closure, the ripple effect has led to flight delays amounting to nearly 320 hours across the country," said one person aware of the discussions, citing infor-

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mation that was discussed.

A second individual familiar with Thursday's meeting suggested that Delhi airport alone is witnessing approximately 240 flight delays per day. "The situation appears to reflect inadequate planning, largely attributed to the AAI," the person said.

Delhi airport, which manages over 1,200 flights daily, operates four runways: 27-09, 28-10, 29L-11R, and 29R-11L, with the last one becoming operational in 2023.

On a typical day, the airport handles up to 46 arrivals per hour. However, an airport official told HT that with runway 28/10 currently closed, that number has dropped to around 36 arrivals per hour. →P6



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According to Flightradar24, a live flight tracking website, 510 departing flights were delayed at IGI Airport on Thursday. The average delay in departures was reportedly around 42 minutes, while arrivals experienced a relatively modest delay of five minutes.

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), which operates the airport, had announced the planned closure of runway 28/10 in February. At the time, CEO Videsh Kumar Jaipuria stated that the runway would be shut for four to five months to facilitate an upgrade of the Instrument Landing System (ILS) to CAT III B standards—an enhancement aimed at enabling operations in low-visibility conditions, which are common during Delhi's fog-laden winters.

More recently, on April 11, Jaipuria said the runway is expected to be operational again by September, ahead of the winter rush, thus allowing the upgraded system to be in place during fog season.

The DIAL posted an advisory on X (formerly Twitter) on April 9 stating, "Delhi Airport is currently undergoing essential runway upgrades. We are working closely with stakeholders to minimize any potential impact on operations."

A former airport official, who requested anonymity, explained the cascading effect: "The unavailability of even one runway tends to reduce an airport's handling capacity. Delhi is the busiest airport in the country and serves as a key hub for connections nationwide. Any extended disruption here is almost certain to have a cascading impact on the network."

"While weather undoubtedly plays a significant role in disrupting flight movements, proactive and advanced flight planning is essential in such situations," added a former official from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Airlines have asked passengers to check their flight schedules before leaving for the airport. However, they reportedly have not announced any advance flight cancellations, potentially contributing to the ongoing congestion.



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HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

16 APRIL 2025

Patna airport: Race against time to ready new terminal

Ruchir Kumar

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PATNA : In poll-bound Bihar, Patna airport's new integrated terminal building will be thrown open to the public, with one of its five aerobridges functional, likely on April 24, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits the state to attend a 'Panchayati Raj Day' celebration programme in Madhubani district.

The PM comes again to inaugurate the "Khelo India Youth Games, 2025" in Patna on May 4, leaving the two dates open for the PM to inaugurate the Patna airport terminal building and also lay the foundation stone for a new civil enclave at Patna's Bihta airport, approx 35 kms from the existing airport, said officials in the Bihar government.

While one aerobridge has got the necessary operational clearance from Air Traffic Control (ATC), the other four will take time. For them to be operationalised, the existing terminal building, which comes in their way, must be razed to the ground and the area prepared for apron — a paved area where aircraft are parked, loaded, unloaded, refueled, and serviced before and after flights. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) did not specify a timeline for their completion.

Notwithstanding the operational constraints, the AAI is busy doing last-minute preparations to make the new terminal building of Patna's Jayprakash Narayan International (JPNI) Airport functional by April 24.

The PMO, which was sent the invite last month, was expected to club the two airport events,

related to inauguration of the terminal building at Patna and the laying of foundation stone for a new civil enclave at Bihta airport, said officials in the Bihar government.

FULL-SCALE PREPARATIONS:

The AAI is trying to complete unfinished tasks on a war footing.

The airline check-in counters are ready, and all connectivity-related cable networking work has been completed, claimed officials.

"We have completed the server configuration and tested the individual display screen of the flight information display system (FIDS). Mounting of the screens is to be completed at some locations," said officials.

Services of SITA (Société Internationale de Télécommunications Aéronautiques), a

multinational information technology company, which specialises in providing air transport communications and information technology services to the air transport industry, was tested on Monday, said people familiar with the matter.

"We have been sounded to be ready to commence operations from the new terminal building of Patna airport from April 24, though a formal communication to this effect is awaited," said an airline operator requesting anonymity.

Installation and testing of around two-thirds of CCTV cameras for security surveillance have been completed and remaining work is under progress, they said.

"The final stage security vetting was done on April 11. This is a joint inspection by a committee comprising representatives

of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Central Industrial Security Force, which guards the airport, the Immigration department, the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the AAI to check for security loopholes, before operational clearance is given to any airport," said the people quoted above.

UNFINISHED TASKS:

Infusing life into the FIDS inside the terminal building and the big screens displaying flight information outside the arrival and departure area, installing computer system at airline check-in counters and boarding gates, branding of airline counters and operationalising eight in-line baggage scanning X-ray machines for registered baggage and 10 hand baggage scanners are among some remaining challenges given the short deadline.

"We have installed two of the eight registered baggage and five of the 10 hand baggage X-ray machines. The remaining are to be shifted from the existing terminal building," the official added.

Besides, setting up stalls — 15 for food and beverages and 18 retail outlets — installing weighing machines for passengers to check excess baggage at select departure gates before going to the check-in counter, moving nearly 2,000 baggage trolley stacks to the new building, putting up toll booths for vehicles, and ensuring common minimum facilities like washroom and drinking water towards the city side are also incomplete.

"We have awarded two contracts for food and beverages stalls inside the terminal building. Their construction and installation are in process," said

an official.

"The location for toll booth has been finalised. The car-parking agency must do the construction of toll plaza," he added.

Efforts to reach AAI chairman Vipin Kumar for comments proved futile, as he did not respond to calls or text message. No other official from the AAI was willing to speak on record.

WHAT'S ON OFFER:

Patna airport's new integrated terminal building, at an estimated cost of ₹1,216.90 crore, has a built-up area of 65,155 sqm against the existing 11,130 sqm, which is handling nearly three times the traffic given its capacity. It will cater to 3,000 passengers (1500 arrival + 1500 departure) during peak hours, boosting the airport's capacity from 30 lakh (3 mil-

lion) to 1 crore (10 million) passengers annually. It will have six additional aircraft parking bays, increasing their number to 11, and facilitate parking nine Airbus A320 and two ATR aircraft.

The new terminal has 64 check-in counters, nine automatic tray retrieval system (ATRS) at security checkpoints in phase I. The ATRS is an automated tray retrieval process. As soon as passengers complete the security screening, the trays, where they put their personal belongings for scanning, are automatically transported back to the start line, ready for the next set of belongings. It will also have four conveyor belts in the arrival hall, and eight in-line X-ray baggage inspection system machines, which allows for quick transit of passengers inside terminals.

देश का पहला एयरपोर्ट होगा आइजीआइ, जहां से यूएस जाने पर फिर नहीं होगी इमिग्रेशन जांच

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट देश का ऐसा पहला एयरपोर्ट बनने जा रहा है, जहां अमेरिकी एजेंसी कस्टम्स एंड बार्डर प्रोटेक्शन (सीबीपी) यात्रियों के लिए प्री-क्लियरेंस की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराएगी। आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट संचालन एजेंसी डायल ने इस दिशा में कदम बढ़ाते हुए केंद्र सरकार से आग्रह किया है कि वह सीबीपी से बात करके इस सुविधा को एयरपोर्ट पर बहाल कराए। इस सुविधा के बहाल होने पर नई दिल्ली से अमेरिका के विभिन्न शहरों के लिए उड़ान भरने वाले यात्रियों को अमेरिका में लैंडिंग के बाद इमिग्रेशन व कस्टम क्लियरेंस की प्रक्रिया से गुजरने की मजबूरी से निजात मिल जाएगी। यानी अमेरिका में उतरने के बाद भारतीय नागरिक होने के बाद भी आप किसी घरेलू यात्री के जैसे एयरपोर्ट से सीधे बाहर

निकल जाएंगे। डायल को उम्मीद है कि इस सुविधा के लागू होने की स्थिति में आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों और पड़ोसी देशों के यात्रियों को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करेगा।

डायल को क्यों पड़ी इस पहल की जरूरत: आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट देश का पहला एयरपोर्ट है, जो ग्लोबल हब बनने की राह पर है। डायल को उम्मीद है कि आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट एक से दो वर्षों के भीतर ग्लोबल हब बन जाएगा, लेकिन इसके लिए उसे कनेक्टिंग उड़ान लेने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या बढ़ानी होगी। डायल की रणनीति के तहत सबसे पहली कोशिश अमेरिका जाने वाले यात्रियों को आइजीआइ पर लाने की है। अभी भारत या पड़ोसी देशों के ऐसे यात्री, जो अमेरिका जाने वाले होते हैं, उनमें से कई यात्री अबुधाबी का रुख केवल इसलिए

- आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों को अमेरिकी एजेंसी सीबीपी की ओर से दिया जाएगा प्री-क्लियरेंस का लाभ
- आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट को ग्लोबल हब बनाने की दिशा में किए जा रहे प्रयासों की दिशा में यह है अहम कदम



आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट • आर्काइव

करते हैं, क्योंकि वहां प्री-क्लियरेंस की सुविधा है। यदि वही सुविधा नई दिल्ली में मिले, तो अबुधाबी जाने वाले यात्रियों को नई दिल्ली का विकल्प मिलेगा। इसमें घरेलू और विदेशी दोनों यात्रियों की अच्छी-खासी संख्या होगी। देश के विभिन्न शहरों के साथ-साथ विदेशी यात्रियों

के लिए नई दिल्ली अमेरिका की उड़ान लेने के लिए कनेक्टिंग सेंटर का काम करेगा, जो आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट को ग्लोबल हब बनाने की दिशा की ओर लेकर जाएगा।

हर वर्ष 20 लाख लोग जाते हैं अमेरिका, इसमें आधा हिस्सा आइजीआइ का: भारत के विभिन्न

पड़ोसी देश के यात्री भी करेंगे दिल्ली का रुख

भारत के पड़ोसी देश श्रीलंका, म्यांमार, मालदीव, बांग्लादेश व नेपाल में सीबीपी की प्री-क्लियरेंस सुविधा नहीं है। इन देशों के यात्री प्री-क्लियरेंस का लाभ लेने अबुधाबी का रुख करते हैं। डायल को भरोसा है कि अब इन देशों के यात्री नई दिल्ली का रुख करेंगे।

शहरों से सलाना करीब 20 लाख लोग अमेरिका की यात्रा करते हैं। यह संख्या आने वाले समय में तीव्र गति से बढ़ेगी। ऐसा इसलिए भी क्योंकि अमेरिका के वीजा आवेदकों की संख्या तेजी से बढ़ रही है। जैसे-जैसे अमेरिका जाने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या बढ़

रही है, उसी रफ्तार में नए-नए एयरपोर्ट से अमेरिकी की उड़ानें भी बढ़ रही हैं। डायल इसे अपने लिए चुनौती मानता है। दिल्ली के अलावा किसी भी शहर से अमेरिका की उड़ान का असर यात्रियों की आवाजाही में आइजीआइ के हिस्से को कम करेगा, लेकिन अब डायल आक्रामक रणनीति के तहत प्री-क्लियरेंस सुविधा के माध्यम से देश के अन्य एयरपोर्ट से अमेरिका का रुख करने वाले यात्रियों को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करेगा।

किस शहर से कितनी उड़ानें: अभी भारत से अमेरिका के लिए उड़ानें कई प्रमुख शहरों से उपलब्ध हैं। सीधी उड़ानों की बात करें, तो यह सुविधा नई दिल्ली, मुंबई, बेंगलुरु, हैदराबाद व चेन्नई से उपलब्ध है। सबसे अधिक सीधी उड़ानें नई दिल्ली व मुंबई से हैं। शेष शहरों से जो उड़ानें अमेरिकी शहरों के लिए

हैं, उनमें अधिकांश कनेक्टिंग उड़ानें हैं। अभी नई दिल्ली से अमेरिका के लिए सप्ताह में लगभग 70 से 80 उड़ानें संचालित होती हैं। इनमें एअर इंडिया और यूनाइटेड एयरलाइन्स, अमेरिकन एयरलाइन्स प्रमुख हैं। यहां से न्यूयार्क, सैन फ्रांसिस्को, शिकागो, वाशिंगटन डीसी और लास एंजिल्स जैसे शहरों के लिए सीधी उड़ानें उपलब्ध हैं। मुंबई से अमेरिका के लिए प्रति सप्ताह 40 से 50 उड़ानें हैं। अधिकांश उड़ानें एअर इंडिया और यूनाइटेड एयरलाइन्स की हैं।

बेंगलुरु से प्रति सप्ताह 20-25 उड़ानें संचालित होती हैं। इसके अलावा अन्य शहरों से भी अमेरिका की उड़ानें संचालित होती हैं, जो धीरे-धीरे बढ़ रही हैं। डायल की कोशिश है कि इन शहरों के यात्रियों को नई दिल्ली की ओर शिफ्ट किया जाए।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

17 APRIL 2025

50 एयरपोर्ट परियोजनाएं शुरू करने की योजना

नई दिल्ली : सरकार की पांच वर्ष में 50 हवाई अड्डा विकास परियोजनाएं शुरू करने की योजना है। देश में वर्तमान में 159 हवाई अड्डे हैं और इनकी संख्या 2014 के 74 की तुलना में दोगुनी हो गई है। नागर विमानन सचिव पुमलुनमंग वुअलनाम ने कहा कि विमानन परिवेश को विकसित करने के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं। इसमें विमानन कंपनियों को समर्थन देना और उड़ान प्रशिक्षण संगठनों का विस्तार शामिल है। पांच वर्षों में 50 हवाई अड्डा विकास परियोजनाएं शुरू करने की योजना है। (प्रेट्र)

Terminal 2 set to get complete infra upgrade

NITIN KUMAR
New Delhi, April 17

TERMINAL 2 OF INDIRA Gandhi International Airport in the national capital, which was closed since Monday by the Delhi International Airport (DIAL), is set to undergo a comprehensive redevelopment aimed at modernising the facility. Airport officials told *FE* that the terminal will receive a complete infrastructure overhaul to accommodate rising passenger traffic and cater to the evolving expectations of air travellers. The project is expected to be completed in six months, with the terminal reopening shortly thereafter.

The redevelopment plan includes the installation of state-of-the-art passenger boarding bridges (PBB), upgraded mechanical systems, and substantial aesthetic improvements. Six new PBBs, sourced from South Korea, will be introduced, each equipped with cutting-edge features such as autonomous docking technology, elevated ramps for better wheelchair access, swing doors for operator safety, and improved cabin

MODERNISATION PLANS

■ The project is expected to be completed in six months, with the terminal reopening shortly thereafter

■ The plan includes installation of state-of-the-art passenger boarding bridges

■ Advanced heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems will be installed



■ New ceilings with skylight designs will be installed for a brighter, more open atmosphere

■ A high-resolution flight information display system (FIDS) will also be implemented

■ New canopies will be erected at the forecourt to provide sheltered access

designs for a smoother boarding process. These new bridges will also include side-covering cushions, contributing both to the safety of boarding passengers and the overall visual refinement of the terminal.

To enhance climate control and passenger comfort, advanced heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems will be installed. These systems are designed to ensure cleaner indoor air and optimal temperature regulation throughout the year. Complementing this upgrade will be an integrated fire safety mechanism,

which will add a crucial layer of security across the terminal.

Officials said that visually, Terminal 2 will see a significant transformation. New ceilings with skylight designs will create a brighter, more open atmosphere. The civil upgrades will also include modern flooring, smart washrooms, and enhanced road connectivity to streamline passenger movement in and around the terminal. In response to seasonal weather challenges, especially during the monsoon months, new canopies will be erected at the terminal forecourt to provide sheltered access for travel-

ers.

According to DIAL officials, the modernisation effort extends to digital infrastructure as well. A high-resolution flight information display system (FIDS) will be implemented, offering real-time flight updates with improved visibility and accuracy. Way-finding will also improve with the installation of clearly marked, accessibility-friendly signage throughout the terminal. Special attention is being given to ensure that persons with reduced mobility (PRM) can navigate the facility with ease.

The refurbishment will not be

limited to the passenger areas, officials said. The airside and apron zones, are also due for a major revamp. These upgrades will strengthen operational capacity, supporting more frequent aircraft movement and preparing the airport for future increases in traffic volume.

Vidhe Kumar Jaipurjar, CEO of DIAL, has spoken about the importance of the project, calling it “the need of the hour”. He noted that the goal is to not only improve operational efficiency but also elevate the overall travel experience for passengers using Terminal 2.

The upgrades are being positioned as a crucial step toward building an airport that is future-ready while meeting current demands.

As domestic travel continues to surge and Delhi Airport holds its place as one of the world’s busiest airports, ranked ninth globally in 2024 with nearly 78 million passengers, the transformation of Terminal 2 marks a critical move in ensuring the airport remains competitive, efficient, and passenger-centric, officials added.



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AHMEDABAD

AI-powered traffic signals

In a bid to streamline urban traffic and reduce signal wait times, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), in coordination with the Ahmedabad City Traffic Police Department, plans to install an AI-powered Adaptive Traffic Control System (ATCS) at 400 traffic junctions across the city. This smart system aims to address the issue of fixed signal timings, where even after vehicles clear an intersection, others must wait unnecessarily for their turn. With ATCS, once the traffic flow on one side stops, the green signal will automatically switch to red, and the opposite side will quickly get the green signal, ensuring smoother movement. For instance, if 30 seconds remain before a signal change and there is no traffic on one side, the system will immediately turn that signal red and allow the opposite side to proceed with a green signal. This prevents unnecessary waiting, saving drivers valuable time. The AI-integrated system is estimated to cost ₹400 crore and will include vehicle detection sensors, intelligent and connected systems, a central communication network, and real-time updates on traffic conditions at each junction. It will also help monitor entire corridors and specific areas more effectively. AMC has already appointed a consultant agency, and the tender for the project will be floated soon.



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DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

एयरपोर्ट पर 150 विमानों ने फिर देरी से उड़ान भरी

नई दिल्ली, प्र.सं। एयरपोर्ट से गुरुवार को भी 150 से ज्यादा विमानों ने देरी से उड़ान भरी। टर्मिनल-1 से जहाँ 75 विमानों ने तो वहीं, टर्मिनल-3 से भी लगभग 75 विमानों ने देरी से सफर शुरू किया। इनमें दो दर्जन अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें भी शामिल रहीं।

पिछले कुछ दिनों से लगातार दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से विमानों की उड़ान में देरी देखने को मिल रही है। बीते मंगलवार को टर्मिनल-1 के पूरी तरह खुलने के बाद से वहाँ पर विमानों की उड़ान

सुचारु रूप से नहीं हो पा रही है। पहले दिन बैग ले जाने वाली बेल्ट के खराब होने से यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। वहीं, बुधवार और गुरुवार को विमानों की देरी के चलते यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा।

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट की तरफ से गुरुवार दोपहर सोशल मीडिया पर लिखा कि हवा की दिशा में लगातार बदलाव के चलते एयरपोर्ट पर विमानों की उड़ान पर असर पड़ा है। विमानों के उतरने में इस दौरान दिक्कत आ रही है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

16 APRIL 2025

Airport wheelchair rules may be reviewed by govt

Neha LM Tripathi

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NEW DELHI: The government is planning to revise accessibility guidelines at airports to limit free wheelchair facility only to senior citizens, with those below the age of 60 years likely becoming subject to new conditions to avail the service.

According to officials aware

of the matter, the changes have been driven by complaints by air travellers of wheelchair shortages and of shoddy equipment.

They may also need to pay a nominal fee if they require assistance to reach boarding gates, an official said, adding that the service will remain free for those above the age of 60.

→P7

India's airport expansion plans require revised seat pacts: Dubai Airport CEO

Jagriti Chandra

NEW DELHI

The development of airport infrastructure in India and fulfilling the country's ambitions to grow them into hubs that can transfer passengers from different connecting points must be supported by a revision in seat capacities permitted between two countries, said Dubai Airport CEO Paul Griffiths.

"The development of airport infrastructure in India is obviously going to be welcomed because there will be many more points where it will be possible to have direct service to the UAE, particularly to Dubai. Of course, the bilaterals will need some revisions to be able to make the points possible," he told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of an Airports Council International event.

He was addressing a question on the Centre's efforts to develop Indian airports as hubs to reduce traffic leakage to major international airports.

The Centre plans to take up 50 airport development projects in the next five years. These include new airports, as well as expansion of existing ones.

Additional seats

The UAE has been pushing for an additional 50,000 weekly seats for Dubai in the bilateral air service agreement. It currently allows 66,000 seats a week between the UAE and India, a quota fully utilised by airlines of both sides. The proposal includes a 4:1 seat allocation formula, allowing Indian carriers to operate four additional seats for every extra seat



Small is good: Evolution of aircraft technology allows smaller planes to connect remote airports cost-effectively, says Griffiths. AP

Indian government plans to take up 50 airport development projects in the next five years

granted to UAE airlines. This ratio would gradually shift to 3:1, 2:1, and eventually 1:1 over a specified period, phasing in the changes systematically.

Smaller aircraft

Mr. Griffiths is also of the opinion that the world is moving away from a hub approach for developing airports as the evolution of aircraft technology allows smaller aircraft to connect remote airports in a cost-effective manner.

This, he said, will mean that in the years to come the number of aircraft with very large capacities will be fewer compared with the number of smaller aircraft capable of flying long distances.

The UAE's second airport - Dubai World Central (DWC), or Al Maktoum International Airport, will replace Dubai International Airport (DXB) as its main hub by the mid-2030s. A

\$35 billion expansion, approved in April 2024, targets 260 million passengers annually by 2050 with five runways, 400 gates, and eight concourses. When it opens after phase one of expansion in 2027, it will have three runways, nearly 120 gates, and a 150 million passenger capacity.

Theme-based terminals

Mr. Griffiths said DWC could have different terminals based on country themes such as an India or America. This would entail one terminal for airlines with same destinations.

So an Indian theme terminal "would not mean only Indian airlines, but it will cluster flights [of different airlines] in the most effective ways, so the tracks are optimised, as we would want to minimise walking distances." Similarly, there could be Europe and Australasia terminals.

In 2024, Dubai International Airport, the world's busiest travel hub, logged 92 million passengers of which 12 million travelled to India. 55% of airport users visited Dubai as a final destination while 45% used it as a connecting hub.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

Two nabbed for running immigration fraud at IGIA

NEW DELHI: The IGIA Police have arrested two fraudsters from Punjab, Neeraj Passi (41) and Sunny alias Joginder Pal (37), for orchestrating an immigration racket. The arrests followed the apprehension of Harpal Singh, a deportee who had illegally travelled from Hong Kong to Delhi using a fraudulent passport.

Harpal, who overstayed in Hong Kong after his asylum plea was rejected in 2024, had paid Rs 2 lakh to Sunny for the travel arrangement. Neeraj facilitated the illegal return, with Harpal's passport being used to bring another individual to India. The discrepancy in Harpal's passport, discovered during immigration checks, led to the arrest. A team led by Inspector Sushil Goyal tracked down the agents via technical surveillance. The investigation continues, with authorities seeking to uncover further fraudulent activities. **MPOST**



Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVODAYA TIMES

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

टी-3 पर हवा की बिगड़ी चाल से उड़ानें प्रभावित

बदइंतजामी से जूझ रहा है टी-1 और टी-3 टर्मिनल, डायल मौन

नई दिल्ली 17 अप्रैल (नवोदय टाइम्स): इन दिनों दिल्ली के टी-3 और टी-1 से यात्रा करने वाले लोगों को अनेक दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। डायल एजेंसी के बदइंतजामी के चलते जहां यात्रियों के लगेज, बैगों के लिए मुश्किलें आ रही हैं, वहीं बुधवार रात से अधिकांश फ्लाइटें देरी से उड़ रही हैं। हालांकि, इसके पीछे दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट ने कहा कि शाम को हवा तेज और रनवे के विपरीत रही, जिसके चलते टैकआफ में दिक्कतें आईं और जब वह ठीक



हुआ तो दिल्ली के ऊपरी हिस्से में एयर ट्रैफिक कंजेशन ज्यादा बढ़ गया जिसके कारण अधिकांश उड़ानें देरी से उड़ीं। बता दें कि मौजूदा समय में आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर तीन रनवे ही

चालू हैं। एक को बंद रखा गया है, जिसके कारण एयर ट्रैफिक कंजेशन ज्यादा है।

देश का सर्वश्रेष्ठ एयरपोर्ट झेल रहा बदइंतजामी: टी-3 देश का

300
से ज्यादा उड़ानों
पर असर

सर्वोत्तम, व्यस्त और सर्वश्रेष्ठ टर्मिनल है, लेकिन मौजूदा समय में काम करने वाली एजेंसियों की लापरवाही के चलते बदइंतजामी का खमियाजा भुगत रहा है। मौजूदा



समय में टी-1 टर्मिनल पर अभी भी चेक-इन सुविधा सामान्य नहीं हुई है। वहीं टी-3 टर्मिनल पर इमिग्रेशन से लेकर चेक-इन प्रणाली पर लोगों को घंटों का समय लग रहा है।

शाम 5 बजे से सुबह 4 बजे हर उड़ानें दो से तीन घंटे लेट

जानकारी के मुताबिक हवा के माहौल और ट्रैफिक कंजेशन के चलते करीब 4 घंटे तक अधिकांश उड़ानों के प्रस्थान और आगमन में एक से दो या तीन घंटे के देरी की स्थिति रही। शाम पांच बजे से रात 10 बजे के बीच करीब 200 उड़ानों और सुबह 4 बजे तक 50 उड़ानों पर प्रभाव पड़ा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

HYDERABAD

17 APRIL 2025

Airfares to Jeddah skyrocket



COSTLY AFFAIR

(FOR DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM HYD TO JEDDAH)

- ₹38k- ₹57k | Current fares
- ₹11k- ₹15k | Usual fares
- Post-Haj pilgrimage, passengers have to shell out ₹55k - ₹57k on direct flights to Hyd
- Haj travel operators say Saudi govt's reduction in quota by 80% for pvt travel operators created supply shortage against high demand
- ₹5L-₹8L | 15-day Haj pilgrimage package per person

Sunny.Baski@timesofindia.com

Ahead of the Haj pilgrimage, airlines have increased their fares between Hyderabad and Jeddah. The current direct flight tickets are priced between ₹38,000 and ₹57,000, a rise from the usual charges of ₹11,000 to ₹15,000.

If that's not all, passengers planning their return journey after June 10, post-Haj pilgrimage, will need to pay ₹55,000 to ₹57,000 on direct flights to Hyderabad. While Delhi and Mumbai benefit from 5 to 7 daily flights, Hyderabad operates only a single direct flight to Jeddah on most days, which serves as the nearest airport

to Mecca. "Saudi govt's recent ruling created uncertainty regarding pilgrim selection and cancellations. The heavy demand further pushed the airfares. Additionally, the unexpected restriction on children under 12 years impacted families planning the pilgrimage. The Ministry of Minority Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs need to negotiate with Saudi for an increased quota before Haj begins," said Khaja Shakeel, owner of Yaseen Overseas Umrah Haj Travel Agency Services.

DEPARTURE OF PILGRIMS

"The committee has scheduled pilgrim departures beginning April 29. Each pilgrim is required to pay ₹3.46 lakh, which encompasses air travel, visa fees, 'Qurbani', and lodging expenses. Additionally, the committee has received 4,000 Haj applications from neighbouring states including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra," said Telangana Haj Committee chairman Maulana Syed Ghulam Afzal Biyabani.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

17 APRIL 2025

Akasa Air launches Easter Special Meal

GUWAHATI, April 16: Café Akasa, the onboard meal service of Akasa Air, launched its first-ever Easter Special Meal, marking a new addition to its monthly festive meal series. The meal, according to a press release, features the global flavours of Turkey Ham Hawaiian Sliders served along with Cheese & Spinach Cutlets, an Easter Egg Cheesecake and a beverage of choice. Designed to celebrate the flavours of Easter, this festive offering combines traditional ingredients with a modern twist, offering a unique addition to the airline's growing repertoire of gourmet meals and delivering a unique dining experience onboard. The offering is available throughout April 2025, across the Akasa Air network and can be prebooked on Akasa Air's website or mobile app.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

17 APRIL 2025

‘SpiceJet revival going very well’

NEW DELHI, April 16: Domestic carrier SpiceJet’s revival plan is “going very well” and the airline is on track to double its current fleet over the next 12 months, Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh said on Wednesday.

In January, SpiceJet announced plans to bring back into operations 10 of its grounded aircraft, including four Boeing B737 Max, by mid-April.

The airline had said it has added 10 planes to its fleet since October 2024 – three grounded aircraft that were brought back into service and seven inducted on lease.

SpiceJet had faced multiple headwinds, including financial woes and legal disputes with lessors. In recent months, the carrier has raised funds and is on the revival path. – PTI

Indian carriers may gain from China's Boeing ban

EARLY INDUCTION. Beijing's move may free up deliveries for Indian airlines

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

A prolonged disruption of Boeing deliveries to China could accelerate aircraft induction plans of Indian and global carriers with possible reallocation of future delivery slots, said aviation experts.

On Tuesday, China ordered its carriers to stop taking deliveries of Boeing aircraft, amid an escalating trade war with the US.

According to Boeing, Chinese airlines have a backlog of 130 Boeing aircraft. This includes 21 aircraft ordered by the Hong Kong based Cathay Pacific.

As of December 2024, Boeing held 55 737 Max aircraft built prior to 2023.

INVENTORY LEVEL

A majority of these were for customers from China, who had previously refused to accept the planes following fatal crashes and regulatory



STEADY DISPATCH. Boeing delivered 18 aircraft to Chinese carriers in the first three months of 2025 REUTERS

scrutinies. But inventory level has been declining over the past few months. The US plane maker delivered 18 aircraft to Chinese carriers in the first three months of 2025, with additional aircraft ready for delivery.

"Should the block (by China) become more permanent, then it is reasonable to assume that delivery slots can be allocated to other operators for the aircraft yet to start final assembly as is done on regular basis anyway," said Stuart Hatcher, Chief Economist and Executive Advisor, IBA, an aviation intelligence and advis-

ory company. "It is too early to determine what will happen to those already assembled though Boeing has plenty of experience in reselling aircraft that are not taken up by failed operators but this is not a normal situation as the operators remain active," Hatcher added.

Rob Morris, Global Head of Consultancy of Cirium Ascend, concurs. "We do know some of the (earlier) Air India deliveries were repurposed from aircraft previously scheduled for China. So Boeing may do the same again but these are early days. There may be short-

term opportunities but it is very early to scale properly," Morris said.

PASSENGER AIRCRAFT

Among Indian carriers, Air India, Air India Express, Akasa Air and SpiceJet operate Boeing-manufactured passenger aircraft. Collectively, they have a backlog of 506 Boeing aircraft.

Air India Express has been a beneficiary of the previous Chinese ban on Boeing aircraft, taking delivery of 44 737 Max aircraft from October 2023 till now.

It expects to receive six more planes till June end. Akasa Air, too, is expecting a steady stream of deliveries this year with the improvement of production rates by Boeing.

The airline will receive its 28th aircraft this month and will add two more by July. "For 2025, our monthly deliveries to Indian customers would average around two per month," Boeing India President Salil Gupte had said in February.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

बोइंग से भारत को 20 विमान मिलने की उम्मीद

नई दिल्ली | चीन-अमेरिका टैरिफ वॉर के बीच भारतीय एयरलाइंस को बोइंग के 20 अतिरिक्त विमान मिल सकते हैं। दरअसल चीन ने बोइंग के विमान खरीदने से मना कर दिया है। चीन ने सुरक्षा चिंताओं का हवाला देते हुए विमान लेने से मना कर दिया है। ऐसे में बोइंग भारत को सप्लाई बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही है। बोइंग को इस वर्ष चीन को 28 मैक्स जेट और एक 787 विमान देने थे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

17 APRIL 2025

DGCA may review framework for pilot fitness

Aviation regulator DGCA is likely to review the framework in place for pilot fitness aspects and response system at airports in case of medical emergencies, according to a senior official. The plan also comes against the backdrop of the death of an Air India Express pilot due to a medical condition in the national capital earlier this month soon after operating a flight from Srinagar.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

17 APRIL 2025

SpiceJet's revival "going very well", airline to double fleet in a year: CMD Ajay Singh

PTI
NEW DELHI

Domestic carrier SpiceJet's revival plan is "going very well" and the airline is on track to double its current fleet over the next 12 months, Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh said on Wednesday.

In January, SpiceJet announced plans to bring back into operations 10 of its grounded aircraft. The airline had said it has added 10 planes to its fleet since October 2024.

SpiceJet had faced multiple headwinds, including financial

woes and legal disputes with lessors. In recent months, the carrier has raised funds and is on the revival path.

Asked about SpiceJet's revival plan, Singh said, "It is going very well and by this time next year we expect to have doubled our current fleet and this return to service program that we have, all the aircraft that are on the ground, yet we are doing our very best, seems to be on track and by the next 12 months, we will be double of where we currently are. The company is doing well and reviving quite nicely".



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

17 APRIL 2025

India set to surpass China in air pax traffic growth rate in 2026: ACI

PTI

NEW DELHI

India is projected to surpass neighbouring China in air passenger traffic growth rate in 2026, growing at 10.5 per cent, airports' grouping ACI said on Wednesday.

One of the world's fastest civil aviation markets, India's air passenger traffic growth rate is estimated at 10.1 per cent this year, lower than the 12 per cent pegged for China. The neighbouring nation has a much larger aviation market compared to India.

At a briefing in the national capital, ACI Asia Pacific &



Middle East Director General Stefano Baronci said India is a market that is developing and in the process of enhancing its infrastructure.

Airports International Council (ACI) Asia Pacific & Middle East represents over 600 airports in the region.

As per its projections, India's air passenger growth rate will be 10.5 per cent in 2026 and 10.3 per cent in 2027 while that of China will be 8.9

per cent and 7.2 per cent, respectively.

For 2023-27, the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) for air passenger traffic in India is estimated at 9.5 per cent, higher than 8.8 per cent for China, as per ACI.

India will also be the fastest growing aviation market globally for the 2023-2053 period with a CAGR of 5.5 per cent, while that of China will be 3.8 per cent.

Reflecting the high growth prospects for the Indian aviation market, ACI said in 2043, the country's yearly trips per capita will be 0.4 compared to 0.1 in 2023.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

17 APRIL 2025

Air Kerala targets June takeoff

HD Bureau

KOCHI

Air Kerala, the state's first private airline, is set to commence operations in June 2025, with its inaugural flight departing from Kochi to Thiruvananthapuram. The airline, an initiative of ZettFly Aviation, aims to offer ultra-low-cost services connecting smaller towns in South and Central India.

Chairman Afi Ahmed and CEO Harish Kutty announced that the airline has leased three ATR 72-600 aircraft from an Irish company, each with a capacity of 72 seats. Two additional aircraft are expected to join the fleet soon. The company has plans to purchase its own aircraft in the future to expand its services.

The airline's primary objective is to make air travel more accessible and affordable. Fares are expected to be slightly above the rates of second-class air-conditioned train tickets.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HARI BHUMI

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

भारत हवाई यात्री वृद्धि दर में चीन को पीछे छोड़ेगा

नई दिल्ली। हवाई अड्डों के समूह एयरपोर्ट्स इंटरनेशनल काउंसिल (एसीआई) ने कहा कि भारत 2026 में हवाई यात्रियों की संख्या में वृद्धि दर के मामले में चीन को पीछे छोड़ सकता है। दुनिया के सबसे तेजी से बढ़ते नागर विमानन बाजारों में से एक, भारत की हवाई यात्री वृद्धि दर इस वर्ष 10.1 प्रतिशत है, जो चीन के लिए 12 प्रतिशत से कम है। पड़ोसी राष्ट्र में भारत की तुलना में बहुत बड़ा विमानन बाजार है। एसीआई एशिया-प्रशांत और पश्चिम एशिया के महानिदेशक स्टेफ़ेनो बैरोंकी ने कहा कि भारत एक ऐसा बाजार है जो विकसित हो रहा है और अपने बुनियादी ढांचे को बढ़ाने की प्रक्रिया में है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

हज की उड़ानें तीस अप्रैल से 30 मई तक

नई दिल्ली, प्र.सं। इस वर्ष 30 अप्रैल से लेकर 30 मई तक हज उड़ानों का सिलसिला जारी रहेगा। प्रथम चरण में 15 मई तक सभी हज उड़ानें मदीना, जबकि 16 मई से 30 मई तक सभी उड़ानें जेद्दाह, मक्का के लिए जाएंगी।

उक्त बातें दिल्ली स्टेट हज कमेटी की ओर से हज यात्रियों के लिए टीकाकरण शिविर के उद्घाटन अवसर पर कमेटी की चेयरपर्सन कौसर जहां ने कहीं। उन्होंने हज यात्रियों विशेष कर महिला हज यात्रियों से मुलाकात कर उनको मुबारकबाद दी। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली से जेद्दाह के रास्ते हज पर जाने वाले हज यात्रियों को एहराम बांधने के लिए भी इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल 3 पर व्यवस्था भी की जा रही है। यात्रियों के लिए हज मंजिल में कई नई सुविधाओं को सुनिश्चित किया गया है।

Moving closer to resuming yatra, China flights: India

Rezaul H Laskar

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India and China are making preparations for resuming the annual Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra, which has not been held since 2020, and are engaged in technical consultations for restarting direct flights, the external affairs ministry said on Thursday.

The pilgrimage to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in China's Tibet Autonomous Region and direct flights, which have both been suspended since 2020 because of a protracted military face-off on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), are among confidence-building measures being discussed by the two sides since they reached an understanding on disengagement of troops last October.

India dismisses Pakistan army chief's comments on Kashmir

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday rubbished Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir's remarks describing Kashmir as the "jugular vein" of Pakistan and said Islamabad's only link with Jammu & Kashmir is the vacation of illegally occupied parts of the Union territory.

"How can anything for-

eign be there in a jugular vein?" external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"This [Jammu & Kashmir] is a union territory of India. Its only relationship with Pakistan is the vacation of illegally occupied territories by that country," Jaiswal added.

→P15

"We will soon issue a notice for the public regarding the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra. There is a possibility of the yatra starting soon," external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told a weekly media briefing.

"The yatra will happen this year and we are making preparations. More information will be put out for the public soon," he said. "We are taking forward talks with China on different

continued on →13

MANSAROVAR YATRA

issues [and] there is an expectation that the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra will start soon."

People familiar with the matter said on condition of anonymity that a formal notification about the pilgrimage, which is conducted by the external affairs ministry, is expected within a week.

HT first reported on Wednesday that India and China are close to an understanding on resuming the pilgrimage as the two sides continue the process of normalising ties after the more than four-year standoff on the LAC. Two days after the understanding on disengagement of forces in October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping met in the Russian city of Kazan and decided to revive several mechanisms to address the border dispute and to normalise relations.

Jaiswal said the two sides agreed in principle to restart direct flights when foreign secretary Vikram Misri visited Beijing in January for talks with Chinese vice foreign minister Sun Weidong. "The technical teams on both sides are looking into the technical arrangements for the flight services to resume," he said.

The technical authorities of both sides are negotiating an "updated framework" that is need to begin direct flights. "The two civil aviation authorities have met and are discussing the relevant modalities, including the updated framework," said Jaiswal, who didn't give a timeline for completing this process but added that "things are moving in the right direction". Jaiswal responded to another question about India and China enhancing trade relations by saying that the two sides had agreed during Misri's visit in January to "resume extant dialogue mechanisms for functional exchanges in a step-by-step manner to address each other's priority areas of interest and concern".

He added, "Specific concerns in the economic and trade areas, including India's trade deficit, will be discussed through relevant mechanisms with a view to resolving these issues and promoting long-term policy transparency and predictability."

India has significant concerns about its growing trade deficit with China, which is nearing a record \$100 billion in FY25. Indian officials had flagged issues such as non-tariff barriers and difficulties in accessing Chinese markets long before the start of the standoff on the LAC, which took bilateral relations to their lowest point in six decades.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

India, China likely to resume direct flights, Kailash yatra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

DIRECT flights between India and China may resume soon as both countries are actively working on the necessary technical arrangements to restart the operations. "At a broad level, both countries have agreed in principle to resume flight operations," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told reporters on Thursday.

"The technical teams on both sides are looking into the specific arrangements needed for flight services to resume," he added.

DGCA and its Chinese counterpart have held discussions and are working on updating the operational framework. Direct flights between the two countries had been suspended since early 2020 following the Covid-19 outbreak and clashes along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Before the suspension, several airlines operated flights weekly, connecting major Indian and Chinese cities. In January this year, India and China agreed in principle to resume

direct flights. However, some unresolved issues remain. Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam earlier this week said the talks were still at a preliminary stage and no specific timeline for resumption had been decided.

Meanwhile, China is encouraging Indian travellers to visit the country. Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong recently announced that over 85,000 visas had been issued to Indi-

an citizens between January 1 and April 9 this year. "Welcome more Indian friends to visit China and experience an open, safe, sincere and friendly China," Xu posted on X.

Both sides are also working on resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra that was suspended since 2020. Jaiswal said the government may soon issue a public notice, hinting at its likely revival.

The resumption of the pilgrimage is seen as one of several confidence-building measures discussed after India and China reached a disengagement agreement in October 2024.



पायलटों की थकान और तनाव को गंभीरता से लें

कुछ दिन पहले एयर इंडिया के एक 28 वर्षीय पायलट की दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर लैंड करते ही तबीयत खराब हो गई और कुछ ही पलों में उसकी मृत्यु हो गई। मृत्यु का कारण हार्ट अटैक बताया जा रहा है। पायलट के रिश्तेदार इसे मैडीकल चिकित्सा में देरी को कारण बता रहे हैं।

वहीं एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी और एयरलाइन इस बात से इंकार कर रहे हैं। मृत्यु का असली कारण तो जांच के बाद ही आएगा। एयरलाइन के पायलटों के सामने कई चुनौतियां होती हैं। परंतु इनमें से सबसे बड़ी चुनौती है पायलट की थकान और तनाव, जो न केवल उनकी सेहत को प्रभावित करता है बल्कि विमान की सुरक्षा को भी खतरे में डाल सकता है।

हाल के वर्षों में तनाव और थकान के कारण पायलटों की मृत्यु व विमान हादसों के कई मामले सामने आए हैं जिसने इस मुद्दे पर गंभीर चर्चा को जन्म दिया है।

पायलटों की थकान एक ऐसी स्थिति है जिसमें लंबे समय तक काम करने, अनियमित कार्य सूची, नींद की कमी और मानसिक दबाव के कारण पायलट शारीरिक और मानसिक रूप से थक जाते हैं। एविएशन में पायलटों को अक्सर लंबी उड़ानों, रात की ड्यूटी, और विभिन्न समय क्षेत्रों में काम करना पड़ता है।

इससे उनकी जैविक घड़ी (सर्कैडियन रिदम) बाधित होती है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप नींद की कमी, एकाग्रता में कमी और निर्णय लेने की क्षमता में कमी आती है। थकान केवल शारीरिक थकावट तक सीमित नहीं है। यह मानसिक और भावनात्मक स्वास्थ्य को भी प्रभावित करती है।

थकान के कारण पायलटों में चिड़चिड़ापन, तनाव

और अवसाद जैसे लक्षण देखे जा सकते हैं। गंभीर मामलों में यह हृदय रोग, उच्च रक्तचाप और अन्य स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं का कारण बन सकता है जो अंततः मृत्यु का कारण बन सकता है। पिछले कुछ वर्षों में कई पायलटों की मृत्यु तनाव और थकान से संबंधित स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं के कारण हुई है।

कई बार पायलटों को अपनी स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं को छिपाने के लिए दबाव महसूस होता है क्योंकि स्वास्थ्य संबंधी समस्याएं उनकी नौकरी को खतरे में डाल सकती हैं। इस डर से वे समय पर इलाज नहीं करवाते जिसके परिणामस्वरूप स्थिति और गंभीर हो जाती है।

इसके अलावा एविएशन सैक्टर



रजनीश कपूर

में कड़ी प्रतिस्पर्धा और आर्थिक दबाव के कारण पायलटों पर अधिक उड़ानें भरने का दबाव भी होता है जो उनकी थकान और तनाव को और बढ़ाता है।

पायलटों को अक्सर 12-14 घंटे या उससे अधिक समय तक ड्यूटी करनी पड़ती है। रात की उड़ानें और लगातार समय क्षेत्र बदलने से उनकी नींद का पैटर्न बिगड़ता है। जैट लैग और अनियमित नींद के कारण पायलटों को पर्याप्त आराम नहीं मिल पाता। इससे उनकी एकाग्रता और निर्णय लेने की क्षमता प्रभावित होती है।

पायलटों पर यात्रियों की सुरक्षा की बड़ी जिम्मेदारी होती है। मौसम की खराबी, तकनीकी समस्याएं और समय की कमी जैसे कारक उनके तनाव को

बढ़ाते हैं। कई पायलटों को कम वेतन और नौकरी की अनिश्चितता का सामना भी करना पड़ता है, खासकर कम लागत वाली एयरलाइनों में।

यह उनके मानसिक स्वास्थ्य पर बुरा प्रभाव डालता है। लंबी उड़ानों और अनियमित शैड्यूल के कारण पायलट अपने परिवार के साथ समय नहीं बिता पाते जिससे भावनात्मक तनाव भी बढ़ता है।

पायलट की थकान न केवल व्यक्तिगत स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करती है बल्कि विमानन सुरक्षा पर भी गंभीर प्रभाव डालती है। थकान के कारण पायलटों की प्रतिक्रिया का समय धीमा हो सकता है जिससे आपातकालीन स्थिति में गलत निर्णय लेने की संभावना बढ़ती है।

विश्व स्तर पर कई विमान दुर्घटनाओं का कारण पायलट की थकान को माना गया है। उदाहरण के लिए 2009 में कोलगन एयर फ्लाइट 3407 की दुर्घटना में पायलट की थकान को एक प्रमुख कारक माना गया था।

पायलट की थकान और तनाव को कम करने के लिए निम्नलिखित उपाय किए जा सकते हैं। विमानन नियामक संस्थाओं को पायलटों की ड्यूटी अवधि को सीमित करना चाहिए और पर्याप्त आराम का समय सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए।

उदाहरण के लिए भारत में डायरेक्टोरेट जनरल ऑफ सिविल एविएशन (डी.जी.सी.ए.) ने पायलटों के लिए अधिकतम उड़ान समय और न्यूनतम आराम समय के नियम बनाए हैं, जिनका कड़ाई से पालन होना चाहिए। पायलटों की नियमित स्वास्थ्य जांच होनी चाहिए जिसमें

मानसिक स्वास्थ्य की जांच भी शामिल हो।

उन्नत तकनीकों जैसे ऑटोमेटेड सिस्टम और को-पायलट सपोर्ट सिस्टम का उपयोग करके पायलटों पर काम का बोझ कम किया जा सकता है। पायलटों के लिए हैल्पलाइन शुरू की जानी चाहिए जहां वे अपने तनाव और समस्याओं को सांझा कर सकें।

पायलट की थकान और तनाव एक गंभीर मुद्दा है, इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए विमानन उद्योग, नियामक संस्थाओं और सरकारों को मिलकर काम करना होगा। पायलटों की कार्यस्थितियों में सुधार, नियमित स्वास्थ्य जांच और तनाव

प्रबंधन कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से इस समस्या को कम किया जा सकता है।

इसके साथ ही समाज को भी पायलटों के योगदान को समझना चाहिए और उनके मानसिक और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए।

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Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

चीन के साथ विमान सेवा पर बनी सैद्धांतिक सहमति :भारत

● कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा जल्द बहाल होगी

पीटीआई। नई दिल्ली

भारत ने बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा के जल्द ही दोबारा बहाल होने की उम्मीद है और इसकी तैयारियां की जा रही हैं। भारत और चीन पिछले वर्ष अक्टूबर में हुए समझौते के तहत डेमचोक और टेपसांग के दो शेष टकराव बिंदुओं पर सैनिकों की वापसी पूरी करने के बाद संबंधों को सुधारने के प्रयासों के तहत कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा को फिर से शुरू करने पर विचार कर रहे हैं। विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रणधीर

जायसवाल ने बताया कि भारत और चीन दोनों देशों के बीच उड़ान सेवाएं फिर से शुरू करने पर सैद्धांतिक रूप से सहमत हो गए हैं और प्रासंगिक तौर-तरीकों पर काम किया जा रहा है।

कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा और उड़ान सेवाओं को फिर से शुरू करने का कदम भारत और चीन द्वारा पूर्वी लद्दाख में वास्तविक नियंत्रण रेखा (एलएसी) पर चार साल से अधिक समय से चल रहे सैन्य गतिरोध की वजह से प्रभावित संबंधों को सुधारने के प्रयासों का हिस्सा है। विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रणधीर जायसवाल ने कहा, हम शीघ्र ही कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा पर सार्वजनिक सूचना जारी (शेष पृष्ठ 9)

चीन के...

करेंगे और यात्रा जल्द ही दोबारा शुरू होने की संभावना है। उन्होंने कहा, यात्रा इस वर्ष होगी और हम इसकी तैयारियां कर रहे हैं। जल्द ही जनता के लिए अधिक जानकारी उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी। कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा 2020 के बाद से नहीं हुई है। जायसवाल ने उड़ान सेवाओं को फिर से शुरू करने के बारे में कहा, सैद्धांतिक रूप से, दोनों देश इस बात पर सहमत हो गए हैं कि उड़ान सेवा फिर से शुरू होगा। उन्होंने कहा, दोनों पक्षों की तकनीकी टीम उड़ान सेवाओं को फिर से शुरू करने के लिए तकनीकी व्यवस्थाओं पर विचार कर रही हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

17 APRIL 2025

दुबई से काठमांडू जा रही फ्लाइट की लखनऊ में इमजरेंसी लैंडिंग

स्वतंत्र भारत ब्यूरो लखनऊ। दुबई से काठमांडू (नेपाल) जाने वाली फ्लाइट में ईंधन समाप्त होने पर चौधरी चरण सिंह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर बुधवार की सुबह करीब 9.40 इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग कराई गई। विमान के यात्रियों को जब ईंधन खत्म होने की सूचना मिली तो हड़कंप मच गया। विमान में छह सदस्यों समेत 157 यात्री सवार थे। चौधरी चरण सिंह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर बुधवार सुबह करीब साढ़े नौ बजे एक विमान की इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग की सूचना दी गई। एयर ट्रेफिक कंट्रोलर से मिली सूचना के बाद एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन अलर्ट हो गया। इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग को लेकर एम्बुलेंस, फायर ब्रिगेड के वाहन, सीआईएसएफ जवानों आदि को तैनात कर दिया गया। दरअसल, दुबई से काठमांडू जाने वाली फ्लाइट दुबई से उड़ान संख्या एफजेड-1133 दुबई से

रात दो बजे उड़ान भरने के बाद सुबह आठ बजे काठमांडू पहुंचती है। बुधवार सुबह विमान जब काठमांडू पहुंचने को था तो मौसम खराब था, जिसके चलते हवा में कई चक्कर लगाने पड़े। उससे

ईंधन खत्म होने की सूचना से मचा हड़कंप

पूर्व ही जहाज का ईंधन खत्म होने की कगार पर पहुंच गया। पायलट ने एटीसी से अमौसी एयरपोर्ट पर विमान को लैंड कराने की अनुमति मांगी। एटीसी से अनुमति मिलने के बाद विमान को सुबह लैंड कराया गया, जहां ईंधन भरवाने के बाद फ्लाइट दोबारा सुबह 10.17 बजे काठमांडू रवाना की गई।

इसलिए खत्म हुआ ईंधन

दुबई से रवाना हुई फ्लाइट सुबह तय समय के अनुसार काठमांडू पहुंच गई थी लेकिन काठमांडू में मौसम खराब होने के चलते लैंडिंग नहीं हो पाई। विमान

काफी देर तक हवा में चक्कर लगाता रहा। इसके बाद जब पायलट ने ईंधन कम पाया तो अमौसी एयरपोर्ट पर लैंडिंग की अनुमति एटीसी से मांगी। जिसके बाद विमान लखनऊ मोड़ गया।

पहले भी हो चुकी हैं इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग

करीब एक महीने पहले दुबई से काठमांडू जाने वाली फ्लाइट दुबई की एफजेड-575 की लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट पर इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग कराई गई थी। मौसम खराब होने के चलते विमान को लखनऊ लैंड कराया गया। तीन हफ्ते पहले पटना से दिल्ली जा रही इंडिगो की उड़ान में एक यात्री की मौत हो गई थी, जिसके बाद विमान की लैंडिंग अमौसी में करवानी पड़ी थी। विगत 19 मार्च को दिल्ली से आ रही एक फ्लाइट में यात्री की मौत होने पर विमान की इमरजेंसी लैंडिंग अमौसी में करवाई गई थी।



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THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

17 APRIL 2025

“By this time next year we expect to have doubled our current fleet. The company is doing well and reviving quite nicely

SpiceJet chairman and managing director **Ajay Singh**





Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

18 APRIL 2025

DGCA may allow arts, commerce +2 pass to turn pilots

Saurabh Sinha
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Class 12 pass-outs from arts and commerce streams may soon be allowed to become commercial pilots in India. In a major reform, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is considering removing the current eligibility requirement of a student having physics and maths in class 12 for commercial pilot licence (CPL) training. Of course, medical fitness criteria will remain for all.

In India, this field has been open only for science and maths students since mid-1990s. Before that, class 10th pass was the only educational requirement for doing CPL.

"Once finalised, this recommendation will be sent to the Union aviation ministry. When they approve it, CPL training will be open for eligible students across streams," said people in the know.

Veteran pilot Captain Shakti Lumba, who retired as IndiGo VP-flight operations and headed Alliance Air before that, says no country oth-



FLYING HIGH

er than India has the requirement of physics and maths at class 12 level as eligibility criteria for CPL training. "This is an archaic requirement. The physics and maths taught in 12th is not needed by pilots. They already have the required understanding of these subjects from whatever they have studied in junior classes," he said.

Several flying school operators also questioned the current rule.

Now, finally this condition may go as the aviation ministry is looking at various options to streamline pilot training in India to meet the manpower requirement of its booming airline industry.



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THE TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

17 APRIL 2025

FIRST FLIGHT LANDS IN AMRAVATI



SOARING HIGH: The inaugural commercial flight from Mumbai gets a ceremonial water cannon salute upon its arrival at Amravati Airport that kickstarted operations on Wednesday. CM Devendra Fadnavis said a pilot training school, which will come up at Amravati airport by early next year, will be the biggest in south Asia