

Flight operators at city airport stop availing services of Turkish firm

In line with an order of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, airlines have stopped using the services of Çelebi and switched to other operators

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Following an order from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), airlines operating out of the Chennai airport have stopped using the services of Çelebi, a Turkish ground handling service provider, from Thursday, switching to other operators.

Immediately after the order was issued, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) began facilitating the switch to AIASL and Bird Airport Services, a part of the Bird Group.

Ground handling, a crucial service in airport operations, involves everything from baggage transfer and flight maintenance to towing and passenger support.

In a circular, the BCAS said, "In the exercise of



Volatile situation: Some of the staff of the Turkish firm were absorbed into two other ground handling service providers. FILE PHOTO

power conferred on the Director General, BCAS, the security clearance in r/o Celebi Airport Services India Pvt. Ltd. is hereby revoked with immediate effect, in the interest of national security."

Negotiations held

Sources said the airlines at

the airport began negotiations with other ground handling service providers after the order was issued. Cathay Pacific and British Airways had flights on Thursday night.

Some of the staff employed by Çelebi were immediately absorbed by the other firms.

प्रधानमंत्री 29 मई को पटना एयरपोर्ट के नये टर्मिनल भवन का करेंगे उद्घाटन

● एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया की टीम 22 से 27 मई तक बिहार टॉरे पर

पटना, लोकसत्य

बिहार के उपमुख्यमंत्री सम्राट चौधरी ने शनिवार को कहा है कि केंद्र सरकार की उड़ान योजना के अन्तर्गत बिहार में जो 10 नये एयरपोर्ट बनने हैं, उनमें से मधुबनी, मुजफ्फरपुर, खालीक नगर, खैरपुर, सहरसा और मुंगेर में बनने वाले छह एयरपोर्ट शामिल हैं, इनकी निर्माण प्रक्रिया जल्द शुरू होगी। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी अपने दो दिवसीय बिहार टॉरे के पहले दिन 29 मई को पटना एयरपोर्ट के नए टर्मिनल भवन का उद्घाटन करेंगे। साथ ही उपरोक्त छह एयरपोर्ट का शिलान्यास भी करेंगे। सम्राट चौधरी ने कहा कि पटना एयरपोर्ट का नया टर्मिनल 65,150 वर्ग मीटर में फैला होगा,



जो मौजूदा टर्मिनल से काफी बड़ा है। इसके खलू होने पर उड़ानों की संख्या 34 से बढ़कर 75 और यात्री क्षमता 25 लाख से एक करोड़ तक पहुंच सकती है। उन्होंने बताया इन हवाई अड्डों के निर्माण के लिए एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया की दो टीमों 22 से 27 मई तक बिहार के टॉरे पर रहेंगी। इस दौरान वे इन प्रस्तावित स्थलों पर जाकर फिजिबिलिटी रिपोर्ट तैयार करेंगी। उपमुख्यमंत्री सम्राट चौधरी ने कहा कि पटना एयरपोर्ट के नये टर्मिनल और नए एयरपोर्ट देश के दूसरे हिस्सों से ना केवल बिहार की एयर

कनेक्टिविटी को बढ़ाएंगे, बल्कि पर्यटन और औद्योगिक विकास के लिए भी संभावनाओं के द्वार खोलेंगे। इससे रोजगार के अवसर बढ़ेंगे। चौधरी ने कहा कि पटना एयरपोर्ट का नया टर्मिनल बनने से इसकी सेवाओं का विस्तार होगा और राज्य के हवाई यातायात को नई ऊंचाई मिलेगी। इससे घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों की संख्या बढ़ेगी। सम्राट चौधरी ने कहा कि पटना एयरपोर्ट के नए टर्मिनल में विश्वल वॉटिंग एरिया, उन्नत सुरक्षा प्रणाली और बेहतर कनेक्टिविटी जैसी विशेषताएं होंगी। यहां 52 फेक-इन काउंटर, मल्टी-लेवल पार्किंग, 5 एयरोब्रिज और आधुनिक बैगेज हैंडलिंग सिस्टम जैसी सेवाएं उपलब्ध रहेंगी। उन्होंने बताया कि पटना एयरपोर्ट के नए टर्मिनल में AI आधारित सुरक्षा एवं प्रबंधन प्रणाली होगी।



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TIMES OF INDIA

MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

TESTING NEW TERRAIN

KK Choudhary



Airports Authority of India Beechcraft aircraft carrying out calibration work at the Navi Mumbai airport

मुंबई एयरपोर्ट और ताज होटल को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी

राज्य ब्यूरो, जागरण. मुंबई: मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे व ताजमहल होटल को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी मिली है। शनिवार को धमकी मिलने के बाद शहर में सुरक्षा व्यवस्था कड़ी कर दी गई। मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पुलिस को ईमेल के जरिये भेजी गई इस धमकी में आतंकी अफजल गुरू की फांसी का जिक्र करते हुए दोनों स्थानों पर बम विस्फोट की धमकी दी गई है।

दक्षिण मुंबई में गेटवे आफ इंडिया के सामने स्थित होटल ताज को 26 नवंबर, 2008 के आतंकी हमले में भी प्रमुख रूप से निशाना बनाया गया था। पुलिस अधिकारियों के अनुसार ईमेल में लिखा गया है कि अफजल गुरू की फांसी के प्रतिशोध में बम विस्फोट किया जाएगा। पत्र में एक अन्य दोषी एस. शंकर का भी उल्लेख किया गया है। पुलिस ने जांच शुरू कर दी है। हवाई अड्डे और होटल की सुरक्षा बढ़ा दी गई है।

आइएस स्लीपर सेल के दो सदस्यों को पकड़ा

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर: राष्ट्रीय जांच एजेंसी (एनआइए) ने मुंबई एयरपोर्ट से प्रतिबंधित आतंकवादी संगठन - आइएसआइएस के स्लीपर सेल के दो भगोड़े सदस्यों को गिरफ्तार किया है। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि दोनों पुणे में आइईडी बनाने और उसके परीक्षण से जुड़े 2023 के एक मामले में वांछित थे। अब्दुल्ला फैयाज शेख उर्फ डायपरवाला और तल्हा खान के रूप में पहचाने गए आरोपितों को शुक्रवार रात मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल दो पर आतंजन ब्यूरो ने उस समय रोका, जब वे जकार्ता से भारत लौटने की कोशिश कर रहे थे। वे वहां छिपे हुए थे। जांच एजेंसी की ओर से जारी बयान में कहा गया है कि एनआइए की टीम ने पहले उन्हें हिरासत में लिया और इसके बाद गिरफ्तार कर लिया।

Corporate Communications Directorate

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

Mumbai airport, Taj Hotel get bomb threat over Afzal Guru's hanging

AGENCIES
Mumbai, May 17

THE MUMBAI POLICE have received a threat email warning of bomb blasts at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport and the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, claiming that the death sentence for the Parliament attack mastermind Afzal Guru was unjust. The police examined the premises of the two vital establishments and found nothing suspicious.

The email was received at the airport police station of Mumbai on their official email ID on Thursday morning.

The city is already on alert after the India-Pakistan tension escalated in the recent days. Security agencies conducted mock drills in many parts of the city. The Mumbai police have also registered a case against the user of the said email account and are trying to trace the email's digital footprints.

Last week, the disaster control room of the Maharashtra Secretariat and the police had also received an email threat of a bomb blast.

The Taj Hotel was targeted by the Pakistan-born Lashkar-



Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport received an email warning of bomb blasts, which turned to be a hoax

e-Taiba terrorists on November 26, 2008, in which 167 people were killed and more than 250 were injured. The popular five-star hotel is one of the most iconic hotels in the country and has been on the terrorists' top target list. The hotel has round-the-clock external as well as internal security cover.

Mumbai airport is also a sensitive spot that sees a heavy influx of domestic and international passengers daily.

The Mumbai police have started an investigation to trace the email sender.

The email sender mentioned "unjust hanging of Afzal Guru

and Savakku Shankar" as the reason for launching the attack on the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel and airport.

However, the mention of the execution of Savakku Shankar, a former lower division clerk in the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption who gained notoriety for exposing corruption, is factually incorrect. Shankar, is a YouTuber and social activist who recently filed a public interest litigation before the Madras High Court seeking a CBI probe into the alleged illegalities in the implementation of entrepreneurship schemes for manual scavengers.



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MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

Celebi exit: Indo Thai is interim airport handler

Dhairya Gajara

MUMBAI

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) has appointed Indo Thai Airport Services as an interim ground handling provider, a day after terminating the agreement with Turkish company Celebi NAS Airport Services.

According to CSMIA's oper-

ator Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL), Indo Thai Airport Services, a certified ground handler currently operating at nine airports across India, will work with MIAL to provide the highest level of service aimed at meeting the existing service level agreements (SLA) and conditions.

CSMIA has also asked for facilitation of transfer of all

existing employees of Celebi NAS at CSMIA to Indo Thai Airport Services on their existing terms and conditions of employment, thus ensuring no loss of employment and continued service delivery to airline partners. All ground handling equipment currently owned by Celebi NAS will be leased by Indo Thai Airport Services to maintain continuity.

MIAL will also initiate the request for proposal process for on-boarding a long-term ground handling partner within the next three days. It expects to on-board a partner in the next three months.

"MIAL has assured all airline partners that ground handling operations will remain unaffected, and operations at CSMIA will continue seamlessly and without any

disruption. MIAL remains committed to maintaining the highest standards of service for passengers and airlines, protecting employee welfare, and serving the national interest," said a spokesperson of Mumbai airport.

The Bureau of Civil Aviation on Thursday revoked the security clearance of Celebi, citing national security

interest. Various airport operators also followed and announced breaking ties with the firm. GMR Airports Ltd terminated the ground handling concession agreements with Celebi at Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, and Adani terminated the agreement with the firm at CSMIA and Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport.



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MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

Airport levies hiked UDF

Mumbai: The revised user development fee (UDF) for passengers flying from the Mumbai airport came into effect on Friday. The hiked fee, included in the ticket cost, will make flying costlier. Under the revised tariff,

domestic outbound passengers will have to pay Rs175 as UDF, while international outbound flyers will be charged Rs615. Arriving domestic and international passengers will pay Rs75 and Rs260, respectively.



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MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

Mohol inaugurates new ATC Tower at Kolhapur Airport



Staff Reporter

KOLHAPUR

Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol on Thursday inaugurated the new Air Traffic Control (ATC) Tower at Kolhapur Airport, along with a Technical Block and Fire Station. He also flagged off the inaugural Star Air flight connecting Kolhapur and Nagpur.

Sharing the update on X (formerly Twitter), Mohol said that the new high-tech ATC tower is a significant milestone in improving the infrastructure for air traffic management at Kolhapur Airport. "The ATC is a vital part of air traffic operations, and a technologically advanced building has now been set up for this purpose. This upgrade will boost the airport's capabilities and benefit the people of Kolhapur," he wrote.

He added that the newly inaugurated facilities aim to improve air safety, enhance emergency response systems and strengthen regional air connectivity within Maharashtra.

Mohol also expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome he received and reaf-

It aims to improve air safety, enhance emergency response and strengthen regional air connectivity

firmed the government's commitment to providing modern and inclusive aviation infrastructure to all regions.

"Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the Ministry of Civil Aviation is making steady progress in developing airports across the country and upgrading key infrastructure at existing airports," he said.

The event was attended by Kolhapur Guardian Minister Prakash Abitkar, Kolhapur MP Shahu Maharaj Chhatrapati, Raja Sabha MP Dhananjay Mahadik, Hatkanangle MP Dhairyashil Mane, Kolhapur South MLA Amal Mahadik, Ichalkaranji MLA Rahul Awade, Hatkanangle MLA Ashokrao Mane, Airport Authority member M Suresh, District Collector Amol Dighe, In-Charge SP Nikesh Khatmode-Patil and Airport Director Anil Shinde, among others.



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MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

Runway glitch leads to rare flight between Goa airports

PASSENGER DESCRIBES THE UNDER 15-MINUTE MOPA-DABOLIM FLIGHT AS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

VIKRAM NAYAK
THE GOAN IVASCO

A rare and unexpected experience unfolded for scores of passengers on Thursday night, when a sudden technical glitch shut down the runway lights at Goa's Dabolim Airport, forcing multiple flight diversions – and in an unusual twist – leading to a brief but historic inter-airport flight within the State.

Among the four flights that were diverted due to the runway blackout at Goa International Airport, three returned

from the Manohar International Airport in Mopa to Dabolim after the technical snag was resolved. This gave passengers the once-in-a-lifetime experience of flying between the two airports of Goa, a journey that lasted less than 15 minutes.

Airport authorities confirmed the rare occurrence.

Speaking to The Goan, Goa Airport Director George Varghese said, "The runway experienced a sudden glitch and there was an issue with the runway lights. This led to the diversion of four flights –

three of which were diverted to Mopa Airport and one to Mumbai. However, once the issue was resolved, all flights returned to Dabolim Airport with the passengers."

One of the flights that made this return trip was an IndiGo flight from Delhi to Goa. Among the passengers was Jayant Jadhav, who was flying along with his family to Goa.

Jadhav described the experience as surreal and unforgettable.

We were on the IndiGo flight from Delhi, which we boarded at around 6 pm.



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MUMBAI

17 MAY 2025

B'luru airport partners with KPMG to develop innovative AI platform

NT Correspondent

BENGALURU

Bangalore International Airport Limited, the operator of Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, has engaged with KPMG in India to harness the transformative capabilities of Generative AI (GenAI), officials said on Thursday.

This partnership aims to redefine airport operations, enhance efficiency, and establish new global benchmarks in aviation by leveraging pioneering GenAI



models within a flexible and adaptable architecture, they said.

"The partnership aims to

deliver a cutting-edge GenAI platform, specifically tailored to BIAL's operational ecosystem. This platform may be a paradigm shift within the aviation industry, offering transformative capabilities that are expected to redefine airport operations while significantly enhancing customer experience," BIAL said, in a statement.

According to BIAL statement, By processing and analysing vast datasets in real time, powered by a highly

flexible and efficient technology stack, the platform aims at enabling smarter decision-making that generates predictive insights that could aid in the delivery of adaptive solutions that evolve with operational demands.

Its ability to recognise patterns and forecast trends could empower airports to proactively anticipate and mitigate disruptions, helping ensure smoother operations and greater resilience.



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HINDUSTAN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

मुंबई एयरपोर्ट से दो आतंकी पकड़े

शिकंजा

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। राष्ट्रीय जांच एजेंसी (एनआई) ने पुणे में आईईडी बनाने में शामिल आईएसआईएस के दो आतंकीयों को मुंबई एयरपोर्ट से गिरफ्तार किया है। इस मामले में आठ आतंकीयों की गिरफ्तारी पहले ही हो चुकी है।

अधिकारियों ने शनिवार को बताया कि इनकी पहचान अब्दुल्ला फैयाज शेख उर्फ डायपरवाला और तन्हा खान के रूप में हुई। दोनों आईईडी बनाने और उसके परीक्षण

दोनों पर तीन-तीन लाख रुपये का था इनाम

दोनों के खिलाफ मुंबई की एनआई विशेष अदालत ने गैर-जमानती वारंट भी जारी किया था। साथ ही इनके बारे में सूचना देने वाले को तीन-तीन लाख रुपये के नकद इनाम भी घोषित किए गए थे। एनआई ने कहा कि इन आतंकीयों ने आतंकवादी गतिविधियों को अंजाम देने की साजिश रची थी। वहीं, इन आतंकीयों ने वर्ष 2023 में आईईडी का निर्माण और परीक्षण करने के साथ ही बम बनाने के लिए कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया था।

से जुड़े एक मामले में वर्ष 2023 से वांछित थे। एनआई इनकी तलाश में जुटी थी।

जकार्ता से लौटे थे आतंकी: अधिकारियों के अनुसार, अब्दुल्ला फैयाज शेख और तन्हा खान शुक्रवार की रात जकार्ता से भारत

आए थे। इसी दौरान एयरपोर्ट पर आतंकजनक ब्यूरो ने संदेह होने पर उन्हें रोका और पूछताछ की। इसके बाद मामले की जानकारी एनआई को दी गई। ये दोनों भारत में आईएसआईएस के स्लीपर सेल के तौर पर कार्य कर रहे थे।



Adani Airport Holdings made the decision after the government revoked the security clearance of Celebi.

REUTERS

Adani Airport cuts ties with Celebi

Press Trust of India

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MUMBAI: Adani Airport Holdings on Thursday had said that it has terminated the ground handling concession agreements with Turkey-based firm Celebi for both the Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports.

It also added that Celebi has been directed to immediately hand over to the company, all off the ground handling facilities to ensure uninterrupted operations.

This decision to terminate these concession agreements was taken after the Union government revoked the security clearance of the Turkish aviation firm.

It also highlighted that Adani Airport Holding owns and operates the Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports, as well as the Mangalore, Guwahati, Jaipur, Lucknow and Thiruvananthapuram airports.

"Following the government of India's decision to revoke Celebi's security clearance, we have terminated the ground handling concession agreements with Celebi at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

International Airport (CSMIA) and Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (SVPIA)," the company had said.

"Accordingly, Celebi has been directed to immediately hand over to us all ground handling facilities to ensure uninterrupted operations," a spokesperson for Adani Airport Holdings said in the company's official statement.

The company also added that it will continue to provide seamless service to all airlines without disruptions.

This is through the new ground handling agencies selected by it.

Apart from all of this, Adani Airport Holdings also mentioned that "all existing employees of Celebi at CSMIA and SVPIA will be transferred to the new ground handling agencies on their existing terms and conditions of employment."

"Ground handling operations at our airports will remain unaffected. We are fully committed to upholding the highest standards of service and national interest," the Adani Airport Holdings spokesperson added.



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HINDU

CHENNAI

17 MAY 2025

Adani ends pact with Celebi at Mumbai, Ahmedabad airports

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

Adani Airport Holdings Ltd. said it has terminated the ground handling concession agreement with Turkish firm Celebi at Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports with immediate effect and has asked it to handover all ground handling facilities for seamless service at these airports.

“Following the government of India’s decision to revoke Celebi’s security

clearance, we have terminated the ground handling concession agreements with Celebi at Mumbai’s Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport and Ahmedabad’s Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport,” a spokesperson said on behalf of the Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports.

Interim arrangement

Meanwhile, Mumbai airport has appointed Indo Thai Airport Services as

the interim ground handling provider for three months. “Indo Thai Airport Services will work with Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) to provide the highest level of service aimed at meeting the existing Service Level Agreements (SLA) and conditions,” a spokesperson for the airport said in a statement. A tender process would also be initiated in three days for onboarding a long-term ground handling partner.

Adani ends pact with Celebi at Mumbai, Ahmedabad airports

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

Adani Airport Holdings Ltd. said it has terminated the ground handling concession agreement with Turkish firm Celebi at Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports with immediate effect and has asked it to handover all ground handling facilities for seamless service at these airports.

“Following the government of India’s decision to revoke Celebi’s security

clearance, we have terminated the ground handling concession agreements with Celebi at Mumbai’s Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport and Ahmedabad’s Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport,” a spokesperson said on behalf of the Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports.

Interim arrangement

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the interim ground handling provider for three months. “Indo Thai Airport Services will work with Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) to provide the highest level of service aimed at meeting the existing Service Level Agreements (SLA) and conditions,” a spokesperson for the airport said in a statement. A tender process would also be initiated in three days for onboarding a long-term ground handling partner.

Credit card theft: Police arrest Chinese national at IGI Airport

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 17

A CHINESE national was arrested at Delhi's IGI Airport last Wednesday for allegedly stealing debit and credit cards from passengers during an international flight, police said. Three of his associates, also Chinese nationals, were detained, police added.

The accused was identified as Benlai Pan (30), police said.

The arrest came after the police received a tip-off from the security and vigilance team of Air India following suspicious activity reported on board flight, AI-315, from Hong Kong to New Delhi.

Officers said passenger Prabhat Verma, seated at 12C, was alerted by the cabin crew to unusual movement around his overhead baggage, following which he discovered that his Bank of America credit card was missing. It was later found under seat 14C, occupied by Benlai Pan, who was originally assigned seat 23C, officers said.

Another passenger, Prashi, seated at 14A, reported that her mother's HDFC debit card was missing.

A third passenger, Nafeez Fatima, provided a video capturing Benlai Pan allegedly opening cabin baggage and inspecting personal belongings, police said.

"During questioning, Benlai Pan admitted that he and his accomplices were part of a coordinated syndicate operating on international transit flights. Their tactics included booking transit flights with longer durations to maximise access to unsupervised cabin luggage," said Usha Rangnani, Additional Commissioner of Police, IGI Airport.

"They would target sleeping passengers, open their bags, and extract high-value items and cards. They would then discard the cards after attempting misuse. The group deliberately used flights between high-traffic international routes, exploiting long-duration flights and cabin fatigue," Rangnani added.

The police have so far recovered a Bank of America credit card found at seat 14C, along with several bags, wallets, and electronic items.

While Benlai Pan has been arrested, an inquiry continues against his three companions, police said.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर 49 उड़ानें विलंब, 11 रद्द

जासं, नई दिल्ली: आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट पर शनिवार को 49 उड़ानों में विलंब हुआ। इन उड़ानों में 16 अंतरराष्ट्रीय और 33 घरेलू उड़ानें शामिल हैं। साथ ही 11 उड़ानें रद्द करनी पड़ीं, जिनमें दो अंतरराष्ट्रीय और नौ घरेलू उड़ानें थीं।

16 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में विलंब देखने को मिला। यह विलंब यहां से जाने वाली उड़ानों में देखने को मिला। वहीं यहां उतरने वाली किसी उड़ान में विलंब नहीं हुआ। यहां से उड़ने वाली दो उड़ानों को रद्द किया गया।

घरेलू उड़ानों की बात की जाए, तो 33 उड़ानों के प्रस्थान में विलंब हुआ और आगमन में कोई देरी नहीं हुई। रद्द की गई उड़ानों में श्रीनगर की तीन, देहरादून की दो और भटिंडा, अहमदाबाद, कोलकाता और मुंबई की एक-एक उड़ान रद्द की गईं।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

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PIONEER

LUCKNOW

17 MAY 2025

Mumbai airport ropes in Indo Thai Airport Services for ground handling works

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ Mumbai

Mumbai airport on Friday said Indo Thai Airport Services will be carrying out the ground handling works at the airport for three months. The announcement comes a day

after Adani Airport Holdings Ltd terminated the concession agreements with Celebi NAS for Mumbai and Ahmedabad airports after the Union government revoked the security clearance of the Turkish firm Celebi on national security grounds. Indo Thai Airport Services has

been appointed as the interim ground handling provider at the airport for the next three months with immediate effect, Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL) said in a statement, adding that a joint meeting was held with airlines to ensure a smooth and stable transition.

Corporate Communications Directorate

PUNJAB KESARI

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

मुंबई हवाई अड्डे से आईएसआईएस 'स्लीपर सेल' के दो सदस्य गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): राष्ट्रीय अन्वेषण अधिकरण (एनआईए) ने आतंकवादी संगठन 'इस्लामिक स्टेट ऑफ इराक एंड सीरिया (आईएसआईएस)' से कथित रूप से जुड़े 'स्लीपर सेल' के दो फरार आरोपियों को मुंबई हवाई अड्डे से गिरफ्तार किया है।

अधिकारियों ने शनिवार को यह जानकारी दी। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि दोनों महाराष्ट्र के पुणे में आईईडी के निर्माण और परीक्षण से संबंधित 2023



के मामले में वांछित थे। अधिकारियों के अनुसार आरोपियों की पहचान अब्दुल्ला फैयाज शेख उर्फ डायपरवाला और तल्हा खान के रूप में हुई है तथा ये दोनों

जकार्ता (इंडोनेशिया) में छिपे हुए थे। उन्होंने बताया कि शुरुआत रात जब वे भारत लौट रहे थे, तभी उन्हें मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल-2 पर आतंजन ब्यूरो ने रोक लिया और हिरासत में ले लिया। जांच एजेंसी की ओर से जारी एक बयान में कहा गया कि इसके बाद एनआईए की टीम ने उन्हें हिरासत में ले लिया और गिरफ्तार कर लिया। दोनों आरोपी दो साल से अधिक समय से फरार थे और उनके खिलाफ मुंबई स्थित एनआईए की विशेष अदालत द्वारा गैर-जमानती वारंट भी जारी किया गया था।

Corporate Communications Directorate

RS DANIK JAGRAN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

काम में तेजी

गोल्डन लाइन तैयार होने पर दक्षिणी दिल्ली का बड़ा इंटरचेंज हब बनकर उभरेगा। यह स्टेशन, तुगलकाबाद में चार स्तरीय भूमिगत मेट्रो स्टेशन का 70 प्रतिशत काम हुआ पूरा

एयरपोर्ट की राह आसान करेगा तुगलकाबाद इंटरचेंज स्टेशन

राज्य ब्यूरो, जागरण, नई दिल्ली

फेज चार में निर्माणाधीन दिल्ली मेट्रो की गोल्डन लाइन (तुगलकाबाद-एरोसिटी) पर तुगलकाबाद में नए स्टेशन के निर्माण का काम तेजी से चल रहा है। यह स्टेशन कई मायनों से खास होगा। गोल्डन लाइन बनकर तैयार होने के बाद यह इंटरचेंज स्टेशन हरियाणा के बल्लभगढ़, फरीदाबाद, दिल्ली के बंदरपुर और इसके आसपास रहने वाले लोगों लिए आइजीआई एयरपोर्ट की राह को आसान करेगा। इसलिए तुगलकाबाद स्टेशन दक्षिणी दिल्ली में मेट्रो का एक बड़ा इंटरचेंज हब बनेगा। दिल्ली मेट्रो रेल निगम (डीएमआरसी) को उम्मीद है कि एयरपोर्ट जाने के लिए बड़ी संख्या में लोग इस स्टेशन का इस्तेमाल करेंगे।

वर्तमान में वायलेट लाइन (कश्मीरी गेट-बल्लभगढ़) पर एलिवेटेड स्टेशन है। गोल्डन लाइन पर तुगलकाबाद में नया स्टेशन भूमिगत बनाया जा रहा है, जिसका



तुगलकाबाद में वर्तमान एलिवेटेड स्टेशन के नजदीक निर्माणाधीन नया भूमिगत मेट्रो स्टेशन।
स्रोत: डीएमआरसी

70 प्रतिशत कार्य पूरा हो चुका है। अगले वर्ष तक गोल्डन लाइन के साथ ही तुगलकाबाद का नया भूमिगत स्टेशन भी बनकर तैयार हो जाएगा, जो वर्तमान वायलेट लाइन के साथ इंटरचेंज स्टेशन होगा। डीएमआरसी का कहना है कि तुगलकाबाद का भूमिगत

45 मीटर लंबे सब-वे से जुड़ेंगे दोनों स्टेशन

तुगलकाबाद में दोनों स्टेशन 45 मीटर लंबे सब-वे से आपस में जुड़े होंगे। इससे यात्री बहुत आसानी से एक कारिडोर से दूसरे कारिडोर के स्टेशन पर पहुंचकर मेट्रो बदल सकेंगे। यह टर्मिनल स्टेशन भी होगा, जो सुरंग के माध्यम से सड़क विहार मेट्रो के डिपो से जुड़ा होगा। गोल्डन लाइन

पर मेट्रो का परिचालन शुरू होने के बाद बल्लभगढ़, फरीदाबाद व बंदरपुर के यात्री वायलेट लाइन की मेट्रो से तुगलकाबाद स्टेशन पर उतरकर गोल्डन लाइन की मेट्रो से एरोसिटी पहुंचेंगे। एरोसिटी स्टेशन से एयरपोर्ट लाइन की मेट्रो से आइजीआई एयरपोर्ट टर्मिनल - तीन पहुंचा जा सकेगा।

रेलवे लाइन के नीचे से बन रही मेट्रो की सुरंग

तुगलकाबाद मेट्रो स्टेशन से तुगलकाबाद रेलवे कालोनी के बीच मेट्रो की एक सुरंग बन रही है। यह सुरंग रेलवे लाइन के नीचे से गुजरेगी। इस सुरंग की छत रेलवे लाइन से 18 मीटर नीचे है। इस से गोल्डन लाइन की मेट्रो गुजरेगी और उसके ऊपर ट्रेन चलेगी।

स्टेशन चार स्तरीय होगा। इस स्टेशन का प्लेटफार्म 23 मीटर की गहराई में सबसे नीचे और इसके ऊपर कान्फोर्स होगा, जहां टिकट कार्टर, कस्टमर केयर कार्टर और आटोमैटिक फेयर कलेक्शन (एएफसी) गेट लगे होंगे। इसके ऊपर के पूरे तल पर

वाहनों की पार्किंग होगी। इसलिए यह दिल्ली मेट्रो का पहला इंटरचेंज स्टेशन होगा जहां भूमिगत पार्किंग की सुविधा होगी। मौजूदा समय में ग्रे लाइन के टॉया बस स्टैंड मेट्रो स्टेशन में भूमिगत पार्किंग की सुविधा है, लेकिन यह इंटरचेंज स्टेशन नहीं है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

STATEMEN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

Mumbai airport and iconic Taj Hotel receive bomb threats; Afzal Guru mentioned in email

AGENCIES

MUMBAI, 17 MAY

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport and the iconic Taj Mahal Hotel, a key site of the 26/11 terror attacks, received fresh bomb threats on Saturday, sparking heightened security measures across the city.

The threat, issued via email to the Mumbai Airport Police, referenced the execution of terrorist Afzal Guru and warned of imminent bombings at both high-profile locations.

According to officials, the email claimed that the bombing would be carried out in retaliation for what it called



the "injustice" of Guru's hanging, and also mentioned SShankar, another executed convict. The police have launched a full-scale investigation, and security has been intensified at the airport and the hotel. Bomb detection and disposal squads have been deployed, and search operations are underway.



This is not the first time Mumbai Airport has been targeted by such threats. However, the reference to Afzal Guru and the Taj Mahal Hotel which had come under siege during the 26/11 terror attacks has raised particular concern among authorities.

The email's contents have

brought back haunting memories of the 2008 terror siege, when armed militants targeted several landmarks, including the Taj hotels.

On 9 May, a bomb threat was sent to Tata Memorial Hospital in Mumbai, causing a security alarm. The threat, received via email at around 9 a.m, claimed that a bomb had been planted on the hospital premises. The email also instructed that patients should be evacuated immediately. However, later it turned out to be a hoax.

Afzal Guru, a resident of Jammu and Kashmir, was convicted for his role in the 13 December 2001 attack on the Indian Parliament. He

was accused of aiding the terrorists by providing logistical support and was executed in 2013. His hanging has been a subject of political and public debate, with opinions divided over the fairness of his trial and execution.

While Mumbai Police have received several such threats in the past — many of which turned out to be hoaxes — authorities are treating this incident with utmost seriousness because of the importance of the two places targeted.

Investigations are ongoing, and the source of the email is being traced. As of now, no explosives have been found. Further updates are awaited.



Corporate Communications Directorate

STATEMEN

KOLKATA

17 MAY 2025

Adani Airport Holdings Ltd axes ties with Turkish firm Celebi and Chinese DragonPass

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, 16 MAY

Adani Airport Holdings Ltd (AAHL) has terminated its association Turkish airport ground handling company Celebi Airport Services India Pvt Ltd as well as Chinese company DragonPass, it has been officially announced.

Chinese company DragonPass, provides access to airport lounges and DragonPass users were allowed to access the lounges at all the airports operated by AAHL, until recently.

However, these lounges will be inaccessible for DragonPass users henceforth, according to the AAHL statement.

“DragonPass customers will no longer have access to lounges at Adani-managed airports. This change will have no impact on the airport

lounge and travel experience for other customers,” an AAHL spokesperson stated.

After Turkey expressed solidarity with Pakistan when India launched Operation Sindoor in response to a terror in Kashmir’s Pahalgam, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) under the Union Civil Aviation Ministry revoked the security clearance of the Turkish ground handling services company Celebi Airport Services India Pvt Ltd on Thursday, citing national security interest.

After the Union Civil Aviation Ministry’s action, other airport operators have announced breaking ties with Turkish company Celebi. GMRAirports Ltd. terminated its ground handling concession agreements with Celebi at Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, while AAHL terminated its agreement

with the Turkish company at Mumbai’s Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) and Ahmedabad’s Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (SVPIA).

“Celebi has been directed to immediately hand over to us all ground handling facilities to ensure uninterrupted operations. We will continue to provide seamless service to all airlines without disruptions through new ground handling agencies selected by us. All existing employees of Celebi at CSMIA and SVPIA will be transferred to the new ground handling agencies on their existing terms and conditions of employment,” an AAHL spokesperson said.

However, Celebi Airport Services India Pvt Ltd refuted allegations regarding its ownership as well as operations

in India, in an official statement. The Turkish company also refuted the claim that Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s daughter Sumeyye is a part owner of the company. It said that nobody named Sümeyye owned any shareholding in the parent organisation, adding that members of the founding family have no political affiliations of any kind.

Celebi’s official statement claimed that it is majority-owned (65 per cent) by international institutional investors from across Canada, US, UK, Singapore, UAE and Western Europe. It claimed that a Jersey-registered fund Actera Partners II L.P. holds 50 per cent ownership in Celebi Havacilik Holding.

While Celebi claimed that it is not a Turkish organisation by any standard, it also

stated that the company was originally established in 1958 in Turkey and the founding Celebioglu family, which holds 35 per cent stakes in the company, are of Turkish origin. It claimed that Celebi’s business in India is an Indian enterprise, led and managed completely by Indian professionals.

“In India, Celebi has proudly operated for over 15 years and is a key player in the private ground handling sector. We directly employ over 10,000 Indians, supporting the livelihood of thousands of families, and have contributed more than USD 220 million in long-term infrastructure investments. We operate at nine of India’s busiest airports and are an essential part of the nation’s aviation ecosystem,” Celebi’s official statement mentioned.

Corporate Communications Directorate

TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

17 MAY 2025

SUMMER VACATION TRAVEL HIT: TOUR OPERATORS

Fears persist, flier count down 20%

SANJAY MANDAL

Calcutta: Tensions between India and Pakistan have scaled down, but air travel has not picked up even a week after the neighbours announced an understanding to hold fire, officials at the Calcutta airport and airlines said on Friday.

Airlines and tour operators said passengers were still apprehensive about air travel, and the numbers reflected that.

The airport had 24,947 passengers taking off and 25,404 arriving in the city on May 15, Thursday. On May 8, the Calcutta airport had 25,037 fliers leaving and 26,412 arriving, said officials.

Before the cross-border tension escalated between the two countries, the Calcutta airport would handle more than 30,000 departures and the same number of arrivals every day, on average. The summer holiday is one of the peak travel seasons of the year. But



The deserted road leading to the Srinagar airport on May 10. (PTI)

now, the rush is missing at the airport, said officials.

Till Friday, flights from Calcutta to Srinagar, Chandigarh and Hindon continued to remain cancelled, said an airport official.

"Although all 32 airports in the north and western part of the country, which were closed, have reopened, air

travel has not picked up. The passenger count is still 15 to 20 per cent less compared to normal times," said an official of an airline.

Airfares in several domestic sectors continued to be low because demand has not picked up, said tour operators.

A one-way ticket from Calcutta to Delhi for Saturday was around ₹6,000 on Friday afternoon. Usually, it is over ₹8,000. For Mumbai, too, the fare was around ₹6,000, much less compared to the usual.

"People are still apprehensive to travel to tourist destinations, particularly those near the border," said Anil Punjabi, national committee member of Travel Agents Federation of India, representing the eastern region. "This summer, leisure travel has taken a hit."

There are some last-minute bookings for international destinations, Punjabi said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 ►

Flier count down 20%

► FROM PAGE 7

Domestic leisure travel, particularly to Kashmir, has been severely hit.

"I had seven groups booked for Kashmir this summer. All of them have been cancelled. Two groups are going to Leh and Ladakh, but 50 per cent of the members have cancelled," said Raktim Roy, managing partner of Dolphin Travels.

Many have deferred non-essential travel plans because of the heightened security at airports, said tour operators.

At airports, scanning is now being done at ladder points before boarding a flight, apart from at the security check counters. Luggage scanning has been intensified, and airport-bound vehicles are being checked.

"The heightened security continues," said an official at the Calcutta airport.

In the international sector, with the Pakistan airspace closed, many flights bound for Europe, the UK and the US are taking diverted routes, which is taking more time.

Sources in Air India said the airline's flights to these places were taking about one-and-a-half hours extra because of the deviation route.

Many flights are making stopovers at cities for refuelling because of the additional flying.

Two Air India flights to San Francisco recently made technical stops at the Calcutta airport for refuelling, sources said.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
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TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

17 AMY 2025

Celebi moves Delhi HC after airport ops ban

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Turkish-origin firm Celebi Airport Services India, which handled ground handling operations at various airports in India, including in the national capital, approached the Delhi high court on Friday challenging the decision of aviation watchdog BCAS to revoke its security clearance in the "interest of national security".

The plea questions the move to act against the firm on "vague" national security concerns, a decision taken by govt days after Türkiye backed Pakistan and condemned India's strikes on terror camps in the neighbouring country. It is likely to be taken up for hearing next week.

Celebi, operating in the Indian aviation sector for over 15 years and employing over 10,000 people, offers its services at nine airports. **P8**

Celebi moves Del HC against revocation of security clearance

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Turkish-origin firm Celebi Airport Services India, which handled ground handling operations at various airports in India, including in the capital, approached the Delhi HC on Friday challenging the decision of aviation watchdog BCAS to revoke its security clearance in the “interest of national security”.

The plea questions the move to act against the firm on “vague” national security concerns, a decision taken by govt days after Türkiye backed Pakistan and condemned India’s strikes on terror camps in the neighbouring country. It is likely to be taken up for hearing next week.

Celebi, operating in the Indian aviation sector for over 15 years and employing over 10,000 people, offers its services at nine airports.

According to sources, it argued that the Indian govt’s decision to revoke its security clearance, which provides airport ground handling services across India, will jeopardise thousands of jobs and threaten investor confidence. Celebi maintains that its operations in India are independent and professionally governed, distancing itself from any political affiliations.

It is likely to seek an urgent stay, arguing that mere rhetoric of national security can’t be a ground to take such action as govt’s move fails to reveal



The plea questions the move to act against the firm on “vague” national security concerns, a decision taken by govt days after Türkiye backed Pakistan

grounds or reasons why such an action is called for and gives no justification.

Following the revocation of Celebi NAS Airport Services’ security clearance, Union civil aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu assured that efforts are underway to retain employees. A press release from the civil aviation ministry stated that BCAS revoked Celebi’s security clearance on grounds related to national security. Govt reaffirmed its commitment to national security, passenger convenience, and uninterrupted cargo operations while managing the fallout from the decision.

The firm handles around 58,000 flights and 540,000 tonnes of cargo annually in India, according to its website. It is present at Mumbai, Delhi, Cochin, Kannur, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Goa, Ahmedabad, and Chennai airports.

Mumbai airport gets interim ground handler after Turkey-headquartered company's exit

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Within 24 hours of Celebi's exit from the ground handling scene, the Mumbai airport operator appointed an interim service provider to ensure airlines and passengers are not affected. Celebi's ground handling equipment will be leased by this company, and its employees will be transferred to this interim service provider to ensure continuity of service, said Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL) Friday.

On Thursday, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), citing national security concerns, revoked the security clearance granted to Celebi Airport Services, a



BJP workers protest outside a Turkish confectionery on Friday ▶ Report, P4

ground handling company headquartered in Turkey. The action came following Turkey's support of Pakistan in recent hostilities. The order, enforced with immediate effect, would have meant airlines that had given grou-

nd handling contracts to Celebi would be hit with flight delays. Ground handling companies carry out security-sensitive jobs such as loading/unloading of bags, cargo, cleaning aircraft, fuelling and check-in. The govt anno-

unced arrangements have been made at affected airports to ensure seamless handling of passengers and cargo.

Following the Celebi order, Mumbai airport operator said it held a meeting with affected airlines. "Indo Thai Airport Services—a certified ground handler currently operating at nine airports across India—has been appointed as the interim ground handling provider at the Mumbai airport for the next three months, effective immediately. Indo Thai Airport Services will work with Mumbai International Airport Ltd to provide the highest level of service aimed at meeting the existing Service Level Agreements and conditions," said

an MIAL spokesperson.

"The operator will facilitate transfer of all existing employees of Celebi NAS at Mumbai airport to Indo Thai Airport Services on their existing terms and conditions of employment, thus ensuring no loss of employment and continued service delivery to airline partners. All ground handling equipment owned by Celebi NAS will be leased by Indo Thai Airport Services in order to maintain continuity of service... Within next three days, MIAL will initiate the Request for Proposal process for onboarding a long-term ground handling partner. This partner will be onboarded in next three months," MIAL said.

PTI

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में सामान चुराने वाला चीनी नागरिक गिरफ्तार तीन अन्य चीनी नागरिक हिरासत में, पुलिस कर रही है जांच, चारों के अंतरराष्ट्रीय गिरोह के होने का शक

नई दिल्ली। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पुलिस ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में यात्रियों के सामान चुराने वाले एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय गिरोह का खुलासा किया है। पुलिस ने सामान चुराने वाले चीनी नागरिक को गिरफ्तार किया है। आरोपी के कब्जे से डेबिट कार्ड बरामद किया है। शुरुआती जांच में सामने आया है कि एक यात्री ने चोरी करते हुए आरोपी का वीडियो बना लिया था। उसके आधार पर आरोपी को पकड़ा गया। पुलिस ने आरोपी के साथ यात्रा कर रहे तीन अन्य चीनी नागरिकों को हिरासत में लेकर उनकी संलिप्तता की जांच कर रही है।

गिरफ्तार चीनी नागरिक की पहचान हांगकांग चीन निवासी बेनलाई पैन (30)

के रूप में हुई है। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की अतिरिक्त पुलिस आयुक्त उषा रंगनानी ने बताया, 14 मई को दिल्ली की आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की सुरक्षा और सतर्कता टीम ने हांगकांग से नई दिल्ली आने वाली एयर इंडिया की फ्लाइट में संदिग्ध गतिविधि होने के बारे में दिल्ली पुलिस को अवगत कराया।

सूचना पर पुलिस तुरंत टर्मिनल-3 के आगमन हॉल में पहुंची। एक यात्री प्रभात वर्मा ने बताया, वह सीट नंबर 12सी पर बैठे थे। केबिन क्लर्क ने उन्हें उनके बैग के पास संदिग्ध गतिविधि की चेतावनी दी थी। जांच करने पर पाया कि उनका बैक ऑफ अमेरिका क्रेडिट कार्ड गायब है। उन्होंने सीट नंबर 14सी पर चीनी नागरिक बेनलाई पैन

लंबी दूरी के उड़ान में करवाते थे टिकट बुक

बेनलाई पैन ने पड़ताछ में अपना गुनाह कबूल कर लिया। उसने बताया कि वह अपने बैग के सदस्यों के साथ विमान में यात्रियों का सामान चोरी करते थे। इसके लिए वह लंबी दूरी के उड़ान में टिकट बुक करवाते थे। साथ ही सभी अलग अलग सीटों पर बैठते थे, ताकि लोगों को पहचान से बचे। इस दौरान बिना निगरानी वाली जगह पर रखे सामान तक उनकी पहुंच आसान हो जाती थी। वह ऐसे यात्रियों को निशाना बनाते थे जो यात्रा के दौरान सो रहे होते थे। वह उनके पास वाली सीट पर बैठकर बैग से कीमती सामान और डेबिट और क्रेडिट कार्ड को निकाल लेते थे। पुलिस अधिकारी ने बताया कि आरोपियों के पिछले 12 महीनों के यात्राओं की डेटा जांच की जा रही है। ताकि अन्य एयरलाइनों और मार्गों पर की गई चोरी की शिकायतों को सुलझा जा सके।

को बैठा हुआ देखा, जिसकी सीट 23सी थी। गायब हुआ कार्ड सीट नंबर 14सी के नीचे पड़ा मिला।

सीट नंबर 14ए पर यात्रा करने वाली प्रश्री ने पुलिस को बताया कि उसकी मां का

एचडीएफसी डेबिट कार्ड उनके बैग से गायब था। यात्री नफीस फातिमा ने पुलिस को वीडियो दिया। जिसमें बैग से सामान चुराते हुए बेनलाई पैन कैद था। पुलिस ने चोरी का मामला दर्ज कर लिया। थ्यूरो

'Air India lobbies government to axe IndiGo lease with Turkish carrier'

The budget airline's long haul flights hinges on the code share deal

NEW DELHI, REUTERS

Air India has lobbied government officials to halt IndiGo's leasing tie-up with Turkish Airlines, citing business impact as well as security concerns sparked by Istanbul's support for Pakistan, according to a source and a document seen by Reuters.

Amid growing public anger in India against Turkey's stance on Pakistan in the India-Pakistan conflict, Indians have been cancelling holidays. The Indian government on Thursday revoked security clearance of Turkish ground handling service firm, Celebi, citing national

security.

Since 2023, IndiGo has had a leasing arrangement with state-backed Turkish Airlines, which has provided two planes with pilots and some crew to IndiGo to operate on New Delhi- and Mumbai-to-Istanbul routes.

Air India has asked India's civil aviation ministry to disallow repeated extensions of the leasing deal, which must be renewed every six months, arguing it is benefiting Turkey and hurting India's aviation sector, according to the source and a document Air India submitted to some Indian government departments, seen by Reuters. The aircraft leasing arrange-



ment had led to "a substantial increase in seat capacity" to Turkey, boosting that country's tourism as well, the document said.

Air India and Turkish Airlines, as well as India's aviation ministry, did not respond to Reuters queries.

In a statement, IndiGo said its partnership with Turkish Airlines, which also include a codeshare deal, "provides multiple benefits to Indian travelers", boosts aviation growth and jobs, and also "enabled IndiGo to build its presence in

the long-haul markets in Europe and the USA."

Indian aviation policies say the government can approve such leasing deals for six months in cases of "emergent" or "unforeseen" circumstances, but they can be extended.

The last extension for IndiGo for such leases is valid until May 31, and the carrier has already applied for an extension, said another source with direct knowledge.

IndiGo, like Air India and other global airlines, has faced delivery delays due to supply

chain disruptions affecting planemakers Boeing and Airbus.

Indo-Pak tensions

Air India has in recent weeks also invoked national security concerns in its discussions with government officials, after India's strikes in Pakistan following a militant attack in Kashmir saw Turkey publicly supporting Islamabad's "calm and restrained policies" in the crisis, the source added.

Separately, IndiGo's codeshare partnership with Turkish Airlines, in place since 2018, allows it to offer many international destinations to its customers.

Tata Group-owned Air India has told government officials that the carrier, as well as India's aviation sector, loses business due to IndiGo's longer-haul flights to the United States and Europe, as Turkey stands to gain more, the source added.

Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HEROLD

BANGLOREE

17 MAY 2025

ReNew setting up Rs 22,000-cr solar and wind energy complex in AP

It will also have a battery energy storage system

SNV SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Nasdaq-listed & Gurgaon-based ReNew Energy Global plc, is setting up what is being touted as one of India's largest hybrid renewable energy projects in Andhra Pradesh's Anantapur district with an investment of Rs 22,000 crore. The ground breaking ceremony for this was held on Friday at Bethapalli in Guntakal constituency.

The complex is slated to have a generating capacity of around 2.8 GW, including 1.8 GW solar and 1 GW wind, besides a battery energy storage system (BESS) of 2 GWh.

In the project's first phase,



AP's IT minister, Nara Lokesh with ReNew Chairman Sumant Sinha at the foundation stone laying event.

ReNew will set up 587 MWp solar and 250 MW wind energy capacity, along with a 415 MWh BESS, for which PPAs have already been signed. The rest of the capacity will be developed in subsequent phases. With a large BESS to be installed, the project will be able to supply power for up to 4 peak hours every day which will help with peak demand management and enable renewable energy to be more

firm and dispatchable.

Aligned with the Make in India mission, the project will be made up of 100% made-in-India solar panels supplied from ReNew's solar manufacturing units in Jaipur, Rajasthan, and Dholera, Gujarat. Additionally, it will use state-of-the-art solar tracking systems to maximise the generation, and waterless robotic cleaning for solar panels that will enable considerable savings of water.



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DANIK JAGRAN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

बिना पायलट 10 मिनट तक हवा में उड़ता रहा लुपथांसा का विमान

बर्लिन, एपी: जर्मनी से स्पेन जा रहे लुपथांसा के एक विमान में पिछले साल कुछ ऐसा हुआ जिसे सुनकर आपके होश उड़ जाएंगे। लगभग 200 यात्रियों और छह चालक दल के सदस्य को लेकर जा रहा यह विमान पूरे 10 मिनट तक हवा में बिना किसी पायलट की कमांड के उड़ता रहा। 17 फरवरी, 2024 को फ्रैंकफर्ट से सेविले, स्पेन की उड़ान के दौरान विमान का को-पायलट अचानक बेहोश हो गया और मुख्य पायलट उस वक्त टायलेट में था।

स्पेनिश दुर्घटना जांच प्राधिकरण सीआइएआइएसी की एक रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि, हालांकि बेहोश को-पायलट ने अनजाने में नियंत्रण संचालित कर लिया था, लेकिन सक्रिय आटोपायलट की बर्दौलत विमान स्थिर तरीके से उड़ान भरने में सक्षम था।

Indigo sticking to pact with Turkish Airlines

Dhairya Gajara

MUMBAI

While multiple companies are calling off their business ties with Turkish companies and particularly Turkish Airlines, IndiGo continues their code-share partnership with Turkey's flag carrier. In a detailed reply to The Free Press Journal, the Indian airline defended its partnership calling it beneficial for Indians.

Pressure has been built on IndiGo, India's largest airline according to market share, to end its codeshare partnership with Turkish Airlines, which is the flag carrier of Turkey. On May 8, the Shiv Sena also

CELEBI @ DELHI HC

Turkish firm Celebi Aviation has moved the Delhi High Court after India revoked its security clearance citing national security concerns.. Its shares plunged nearly 20% in two days, with the firm warning of job losses and investor flight.

urged IndiGo to end its code-share partnership with Turkish Airlines.

▶ **Contd on | Nation**

Indigo sticking to...

In a codeshare partnership, one carrier markets and the other operates as a result of an agreement between two carriers to sell seats on each other's flights to offer customers a large variety of destinations to choose. Under this arrangement, a flight ticket booked on the flight number of the carrier could well be operated by another airline.

IndiGo told The Free Press Journal that international travel has become more accessible and affordable through the codeshare agreement. It said the ongoing air traffic between India and Turkey needs to be viewed in the context of the air services agreement (ASA) between the two countries and the overall construct of international air services to and from India. The ASA between India and Turkey ASA allows carriers of Turkey and India to operate a total of 56 flights per week between India and Turkey. This includes 14 flights from India to Turkey and 14 flights from Turkey to India each by Indian carriers and the same number by airlines of Turkey.

It currently operates direct flights to Istanbul via leased 500+ seater aircraft and offers code-share seats to travellers to more than 40 points

in Europe and USA supported by its domestic network. "The arrangement provides benefits to Indian travellers and the country's economy. The additional capacity has enabled availability of seats for Indian passengers at reasonable airfares," IndiGo said, adding that it facilitates trade worth billions of USD between the two countries.

IndiGo said that prior to the commencement of IndiGo's operations to Turkey, Turkish Airlines was the sole carrier on this route, deriving the entire benefits of direct air connectivity between India and Turkey. It added that the codeshare has enabled it to build its presence in the long-haul markets in Europe and the USA, allowing the airline to lay a foundation for self-sufficient long-haul foray with the 40 A321XLR and 30 A350 aircraft ordered by the airline.

"This arrangement not only enhances the connectivity of Indian hubs like Delhi and Mumbai, but the additional revenue has also led to increased tax contributions to the Indian exchequer, supporting economic growth. Continuous reinvestment of its resources in expanding its international routes, IndiGo is fuelling the aviation sector's development and creating jobs, both direct and indirect, across our nation. This expansion is a win-win for customers, airlines, and the broader Indian economy," said IndiGo.



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HINDUSTAN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

विमानों में चोरी करने वाला चीनी नागरिक गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली, प्र.सं.। हांगकांग से दिल्ली आ रहे एयर इंडिया के विमान में यात्रियों के बैग से सामान चोरी करते हुए कर्मचारियों ने एक चीनी नागरिक को पकड़ा है। आरोपी उस विमान में अपने तीन अन्य साथियों के साथ सफर कर रहा था। पुलिस का मानना है कि चीनी नागरिकों का यह गैंग अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में सफर करते हुए यात्रियों का सामान चुराता था।

अतिरिक्त आयुक्त उषा रंगनानी ने बताया कि 14 मई को एयर इंडिया के सुरक्षा विभाग की तरफ से विमान में चोरी की सूचना दी गई थी। उन्होंने बताया कि

■ गैंग अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में सफर करते समय वारदात को अंजाम देता था

एयर इंडिया का विमान एआई-315 हांगकांग से नई दिल्ली आ रहा था। विमान में चार चीनी नागरिकों को पकड़ा गया, जिनमें से एक चोरी कर रहा था। पुलिस टीम ने एयर इंडिया अधिकारियों के साथ विमान में सफर करने वाले यात्रियों से मुलाकात की। सीट संख्या 12सी पर आए यात्री प्रभात वर्मा ने बताया कि विमान कर्मचारियों ने उनके बैग से छेड़छाड़ की जानकारी दी थी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

17 MAY 2025

AIR INDIA LOBBIES GOVT TO HALT INDIGO-TURKISH AIRLINES TIE-UP

Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Air India has lobbied Indian officials to halt rival IndiGo's, opens new tab leasing tie-up with Turkish Airlines, opens new tab, citing business impact as well as security concerns sparked by Istanbul's support for Pakistan, according to a source and a document seen by Reuters.

Amid growing public anger in India against Turkey's stance on Pakistan in the India-Pakistan conflict, Indians have been cancelling holidays. The Indian government on Thursday revoked security clearance of Turkish ground handling service firm, Celebi, citing national security.

Since 2023, IndiGo has had a leasing arrangement with state-backed Turkish Airlines, which has provided two planes with pilots and some crew to IndiGo to operate on New Delhi- and Mumbai-to-Istanbul routes.

Air India has asked India's Civil Aviation ministry to disallow repeated extensions of the leasing deal, which must be renewed every six months, arguing it is benefiting Turkey and hurting India's aviation sector, according to the source and a document Air India submitted to some Indian government departments, seen by Reuters.

The aircraft leasing arrangement had led to "a substantial increase in seat capacity" to Turkey, boosting that country's tourism as well, the document said.

In a statement, IndiGo said its partnership with Turkish Airlines, which also include a code-share deal, "provides multiple benefits to Indian travellers", boosts aviation growth and jobs, and also "enabled IndiGo to build its presence in the long-haul markets in Europe and the USA."



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HINDU

CHENNAI

17 MAY 2025

'Air India lobbies govt. to axe IndiGo lease with Turkish carrier'

Reuters

NEW DELHI

Air India has lobbied Indian officials to halt rival IndiGo's leasing tie-up with Turkish Airlines, citing business impact as well as security concerns sparked by Istanbul's support for Pakistan, according to a source and a document reviewed by *Reuters*.

Amid growing public anger in India against Tur-

key's stance on Pakistan in the India-Pakistan conflict, Indians have been cancelling holidays.

The Centre on Thursday revoked security clearance of Turkish ground handling service firm, Celebi, citing national security.

Celebi, however, has moved the Delhi High Court to set aside the decision, arguing it was issued without any warning to the company.



Corporate Communications Directorate

JAAN SATTA

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

विमान में चोरी के आरोप में चीनी नागरिक गिरफ्तार

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
नई दिल्ली, 17 मई।

हांगकांग से नई दिल्ली की एक उड़ान के दौरान सहयात्रियों के डेबिट और क्रेडिट कार्ड चुराने के आरोप में एक चीनी नागरिक को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। संदेह है कि आरोपी विमान में चोरी करने वाले एक संगठित गिरोह का सदस्य है। पुलिस ने शनिवार को बताया कि आरोपी की पहचान 30 साल के बेनलाई पान के तौर पर की गई है। उसे एयर इंडिया की उड़ान एआइ-315 में सवार कई यात्रियों की शिकायतों के बाद 14 मई को यहाँ इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय (आइजीआई) हवाई अड्डे पर पहुंचने पर गिरफ्तार किया गया था।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

Chinese national held for theft on flight from Hong Kong to Delhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

A 30-year-old Chinese national has been arrested for allegedly stealing credit and debit cards from fellow passengers during a flight from Hong Kong to New Delhi, police said on Saturday.

The accused, identified as Benlai Pan, is suspected to be a member of an international gang involved in organized in-flight thefts targeting sleeping passengers on long-haul international flights. Three of Pan's associates—Meng Guangyang (51), Chang Mang (42), and Liu Jie (45)—have also been detained. On May 14, the Air India security and vigilance team at Terminal-3 informed the police about the detention of four Chinese nationals after passengers reported thefts during the flight from Hong Kong.

Upon arriving at the airport's arrival hall, police spoke to the staff and several affected passengers, including Prabhat Verma, who was seated in 12C.

Verma had been warned by the cabin crew about suspicious movements around his overhead baggage. Upon checking, he discovered his credit card was missing. He noticed a

person seated in 14C, later identified as Pan, who was not assigned that seat. Pan's ticket was for seat 23C, and the missing card was found under his seat, police said. Another passenger, Prashi, who was seated in 14A, also reported that her mother's debit card had been stolen from her bag.

Nafeez Fatima, another passenger, provided a video recording showing Pan allegedly opening cabin baggage and inspecting the personal belongings of fellow passengers, said Additional Commissioner of Police (IGI Airport) Usha Rangnani. "During interrogation, Pan admitted that he and his accomplices were part of a coordinated

syndicate operating on international transit flights. They targeted long-duration flights to maximize their access to unsupervised luggage. The gang members strategically spread out across different seats to avoid detection while carefully opening bags and stealing high-value items, including credit cards, which were later discarded after being misused," Rangnani said. Both brothers have been arrested, and the investigation is ongoing, DCP said.





Corporate Communications Directorate

RS DANIK JAGRAN

DELHI

18 MAY 2025

अमृतसर से लंदन- वर्मिंघम दुबई की उड़ानें वहाल, निर्यात शुरू

जागरण संवाददाता अमृतसर: भारत-पाकिस्तान के बीच सीजफायर होने के बाद अमृतसर एयरपोर्ट से लंदन, बर्मिंघम, बैकॉक, दुबई शारजाह की उड़ानें बहाल हो चुकी हैं। इन उड़ानों की बहाली के साथ ही एयर कार्गो टर्मिनल से अब यूरोपियन देशों के लिए निर्यात भी शुरू हो चुका है। शनिवार को लंदन और बर्मिंघम के लिए आम सब्जियां और बेबी कार्न भेजा गया है। वहीं, दुबई के लिए जनरल कार्गो भेजा गया है। एक्सपोर्टर्स के मुताबिक अगले हफ्ते लंदन के लिए सब्जियां भेजने की तैयारी है। निर्यातक साहिबजीत सिंह के मुताबिक पाकिस्तान की तुलना में अमृतसर एयर कार्गो का फ्रेट ज्यादा है। ऐसे में सरकार को कार्गो रेट घटाना चाहिए। सरकार फ्रेट घटाती है तो किसान फल और सब्जियां ज्यादा भेजेंगे और अच्छा मुनाफा कमाएंगे। वहीं, दूसरे राज्यों से भी कारोबारी अमृतसर एयर कार्गो को ज्यादा तरजीह देंगे। इस संबंध में उनकी तरफ से नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री, वित्त मंत्री और मुख्यमंत्री पंजाब को भी ई मेल की गई है।



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TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

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Chinese national arrested for thefts in flights on long routes, three others detained

Times News Network

New Delhi: A Chinese national was arrested for organised in-flight thefts and three other Chinese nationals were detained for questioning. Police investigations revealed that the arrested individual was part of a group targeting long transit flights in which they stole cash, electronics, credit cards, etc., from the unsupervised luggage of sleeping pas-

sengers. Their strategy exploited long-duration, high-traffic international flights, making it harder to notice the thefts.

The accused, Benlai Pan, 30, a resident of Hong Kong, was apprehended after Air India's security and vigilance team alerted Delhi Police on May 14 about suspicious activity on the airline's flight AI-315 from Hong Kong to New Delhi. Passengers had complained about theft du-

ring the flight.

Police teams met Air India staff and passengers at Indira Gandhi International Airport's Terminal 3 arrival hall. Passenger Prabhat Verma told the cops that the cabin crew warned him of suspicious movements near his overhead baggage. Upon inspection, he discovered his credit card was missing and noticed a suspicious individual, later identified as Ben-

lai, sitting in a seat not assigned to him. The missing card was found nearby. Another passenger, Prashi, too found her mother's debit card missing. Another vigilant passenger provided video footage showing Benlai opening cabin baggage items and inspecting the contents.

Benlai was accompanied by three other Chinese nationals — Meng Guangyang, 51, Chang Mang, 42, and Liu Jie,

45. The authorities are liaising with the embassies concerned to verify their backgrounds and determine whether they were involved in similar crimes worldwide.

During interrogation, Benlai confessed to being part of a sophisticated syndicate targeting transit flights. The group's strategy involved booking long transit flights to access unsupervised cabin luggage over extended periods.

They sat in different section of the aircraft avoid being identified as a coordinated group, thus minimising the risk of being noticed. Their primary tactic was to target sleeping passengers, carefully opening bags to steal high-value items like cash, electronics and credit cards. When cards were stolen, the group used them and immediately discarded them to make detection harder.

The syndicate specifical-

ly targeted high-traffic international routes, exploiting long-duration flights where passengers were fatigued and less vigilant. This allowed them to carry out thefts with relative ease, moving unnoticed in crowded cabins.

A credit card, several bags, wallets and electronics were recovered from the men and they are under further scrutiny.

Usha Rangnani, additional CP (IGI), said, "Benlai has been

arrested, while the involvement of his three associates are being investigated. Travel data over the past 12 months is being analysed to connect the group with similar unsolved in-flight thefts." Alerts have been issued to immigration and airport authorities across the country and global enforcement agencies have been contacted to determine whether this group is a part of a larger international theft syndicate.