



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLANIUM POST

KOLKATA

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Kol Airport equips staff & passengers with life saving skills

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA: With the objective of empowering both passengers and airport staff with lifesaving emergency response skills, the Airport Health Organisation (APHO), Kolkata, in collaboration with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), observed Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Awareness Week from October 13 to 17 at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport.

The campaign was part of the Ministry of Health and

Closer Look

- » The campaign was part of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's nationwide drive to promote CPR awareness
- » Activities held through the week included awareness sessions, live demonstrations, hands-on training, a CPR pledge and the display of educational materials and videos provided by the Health Ministry
- » A total of 510 stakeholders received CPR training, along with 100 yellow fever vaccine beneficiaries

Family Welfare's nationwide drive to promote CPR awareness. The programme sought to raise public understanding

of the critical role of CPR in saving lives during sudden cardiac emergencies and to ensure better preparedness within the

airport environment. Activities held through the week included awareness sessions, live demonstrations, hands-on training, a CPR pledge and the display of educational materials and videos provided by the Health Ministry. A dedicated CPR kiosk was also set up at the International Arrival Terminal to engage passengers.

The kiosk was inaugurated by PR Beuria, airport director, NSCBI Airport, who interacted with trainers and passengers during his visit. "Timely CPR can save precious lives in

emergency situations. Such initiatives help equip both passengers and staff with vital life-saving skills," Beuria said.

A total of 510 stakeholders, including AAI, CISF, Immigration, Airlines, Cargo and APHO officials, received CPR training, along with 100 yellow fever vaccine beneficiaries. Around 5,000 passengers were reached through information leaflets. To ensure continuous readiness, three to four CPR-trained APHO officers will remain deployed at the airport round-the-clock.

AAI conducts land survey to add four parking bays at Hindon Airport

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

WITH just two parking bays available at the Hindon Airport for commercial planes and no operations permitted between sunset and sunrise, the airfield owned by the Indian Air Force remains severely unutilised.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) now wants to increase flight operations at the airport and has recently completed a survey of the land required to triple the number of parking spots.

Airport director Chilaka Mahesh said on Saturday, "We are looking at increasing the number of parking bays from the existing two to six at the earliest, which will require around 34,500 square metres of land. A survey to identify the land required was conducted by AAI officials recently along with the defence estate and the revenue officials of Uttar Pradesh." He said that the report of this survey has been submitted to the defence estates department.

Mahesh is confident of getting the green signal for the expansion soon. "We will need six



EXPANSION PLAN

- 1 **34,500 sq m** is the land area required by AAI to add four more parking bays for commercial aircraft
- 2 **46** is the average number of flights operating from airport daily
- 3 **5,000** is the number of passengers using the airport daily
- 4 **₹46.6 crore** is the cost at which the Hindon Airport was built

to seven months to ready the four parking bays. When the parking slots increase, the routes from this airport as well as the number of airlines from here will increase too," he said.

The AAI has posted a deputy general manager recently at the Hindon Airport to sort out the land issue and focus on the airport's expansion, he added.

The AAI began operations from the Hindon Airport on October 11, 2019, largely to facilitate regional connectivity under the UDAAN scheme. While Star Air operates under the scheme from this airport, Indigo and Air India Express use it to connect key state capitals. An average of 46 flights operate from this airport daily, with around 5,000 people arriving or departing from here.

Another airport official said, "The terminal had been designed to cater to roughly 300 people but it handles 15 times the capacity. There is a demand to operate more flights. MPs from Prayagraj and Lucknow want the airports in their cities to be connected with it."

There is a need for more parking bays for flights here. "There are times when an aircraft gets grounded in one of the bays due to some issue. At that time, the capacity of flights that can be handled nosedives to 50%," he specified.

Mid-air medical emergencies: City airport trains flyers, staff on life-saving skills

RAJIB CHAKRABORTY
Kolkata, 17 October

City-based anaesthesiologist Dr Diptashree Ray this week saved a co-passenger's life after he suffered a cardiac arrest at Mumbai airport, administering prompt cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

In another incident, a middle-aged passenger suffered a sudden cardiac arrest mid-air on a Kolkata-bound flight and the crew's timely CPR helped stabilise him until the aircraft landed. The incident served as a stark reminder of how a few minutes — and a few trained hands — can make the difference between life and death. It's precisely this awareness that the Airport Health Organization (APHO), Kolkata, in collaboration with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), sought to spread this week as part of the ministry of health and family welfare's nationwide initiative — "CPR Awareness Week" (13-17 October) — at Netaji Subhas Chandra



Bose International (NSCBI) Airport, Kolkata.

The programme, aimed to equip airport stakeholders, staff, and even passengers with the critical lifesaving skill of CPR — an emergency procedure that maintains blood circulation and breathing when the heart stops beating. Throughout the week, a series of activities transformed the bustling NSCBI airport into a hub of health awareness. The initiative featured the inauguration of CPR Awareness Week, a pledge ceremony, interactive sessions, hands-on training, and the display of educational materials and videos provided by the ministry of health. Informative leaflets

and pamphlets were distributed to passengers, while a dedicated CPR kiosk was set up at the International Arrival Terminal.

The kiosk was inaugurated today by P R Beuria, airport director, NSCBI Airport, who also inspected the arrangements, interacted with trainers and participants, and took part in a demonstration session himself. "Timely CPR can save precious lives in emergency situations. Such awareness initiatives help equip both passengers and airport staff with vital lifesaving skills. We are proud to support this national campaign and encourage everyone to learn and practice CPR," Dr Beuria said. The response to the

initiative was overwhelming. Over 510 personnel from various airport stakeholders — including AAI officials, Immigration, Cargo (Domestic and International), CISE, airline staff, and APHO Kolkata staff — received hands-on CPR training.

Additionally, 100 yellow fever vaccine beneficiaries were trained, and around 5000 passengers were sensitised through pamphlet distribution and awareness videos. The APHO has also ensured that 3-4 trained officers remain deployed at the airport round-the-clock, ready to respond to any medical emergency requiring CPR. Airport officials noted that in the past year alone, there have been multiple medical emergencies involving passengers, some of which were cardiac in nature. "Having CPR-trained personnel available within minutes can make all the difference," said an official from the health unit. The CPR Awareness Week, part of a

broader national campaign by the ministry of health and family welfare, underscores the government's focus on community preparedness and emergency response. Airports, being high-footfall zones, are now seen as crucial points for public health sensitisation. For travellers like Ananya Ghosh, who was en route to Singapore and happened to witness one of the demonstrations, the initiative struck a personal chord. "I never realised how simple CPR could be — and how vital. Watching it live gave me the confidence that I could help if someone collapsed near me," she said.

As air travel continues to grow, the Kolkata airport's proactive participation in this campaign highlights a vital shift — from managing passenger flow to safeguarding passenger lives. The message from this week's event was clear and resounding: every minute counts, and every trained hand can save a life.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

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एयरपोर्ट पर तैनात अफसरों को कानून की जानकारी होना जरूरी : शीर्ष कोर्ट

एनआरआई के खिलाफ दर्ज मुकदमा किया रद्द

नई दिल्ली। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि देश के अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाईअड्डों पर तैनात संघीय जांच एजेंसियों को अपने अधिकारियों को कानून की जानकारी और संवेदनशीलता बढ़ाने की जरूरत है। ताकि किसी अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्री को बिना सही वजह के गिरफ्तार या हिरासत में न लिया जाए।

जस्टिस विक्रम नाथ और जस्टिस संदीप मेहता की पीठ ने यह टिप्पणी इटली में बसे एनआरआई रॉकी अब्राहम की गिरफ्तारी और उनके खिलाफ दर्ज आपराधिक मुकदमे को रद्द करते हुए की। पिछले दो दशक से इटली में रह रहे अब्राहम को जनवरी 2025 में दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर हिरासत में लिया गया था। एयरपोर्ट अधिकारियों ने उनके सामान से हिरण का सींग बरामद होने का दावा किया था और वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1972 की धाराओं 39, 49 और 51 के तहत एफआईआर दर्ज कर उन्हें गिरफ्तार कर लिया था। अब्राहम लगभग दो हफ्ते तक हिरासत में रहे और बाद में जमानत मिली, जिसमें उन्हें भारत छोड़ने पर रोक लगा दी गई। ब्यूरो



Fire and smoke in the cargo area of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on Saturday

Fire at Dhaka int'l airport forces six-hour flight delay

AGENCIES
Dhaka, October 18

A MASSIVE FIRE broke out on Saturday at the cargo complex of the international airport in Bangladesh's capital, forcing authorities to suspend all flight operations for six hours as thick black smoke engulfed the area. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) said the blaze broke out in the afternoon at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, prompting the deployment of over two dozen firefighting units, with additional teams rushing to the scene. "We received the information at 2:30 pm and immediately dispatched our units to

join the ones deployed at the airport," Fire Service spokesman Talha Bin Zaim said.

Thirty-six firefighting units are engaged in the operation, he said. CAAB officials said the Air Force's fire units also joined the rescue campaign. "Landings and takeoffs of all aircraft have been suspended until further notice. All our aircraft are confirmed safe," a CAAB spokesperson said.

Both domestic and international flights were affected.

An IndiGo flight from Delhi to Dhaka was diverted to Kolkata, and an Air Arabia flight from Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates was sent on to Chittagong. Meanwhile, a Cathay Pacific flight from Hong Kong was seen circling in the sky after failing to land at Dhaka airport,

officials said.

According to local media reports, chemicals stored in the cargo zone posed a major challenge for firefighters. Eyewitnesses said personnel from the army, air force, navy, and Border Guard Bangladesh joined the firefighting and rescue efforts. They described the fire as a major one, with thick smoke covering a large part of the airport. This is the third major fire reported in Bangladesh this week. A fire on Tuesday at a garment factory in Bangladesh and an adjacent chemical warehouse killed at least 16 people and injured others. On Thursday, another fire burned down a garment factory building in an export processing zone in Chittagong.

Corporate Communications Directorate

HARI BHUMI

DELHI

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अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्री को हिरासत में लेने या गिरफ्तार करने का मामला

हवाईअड्डों पर अधिकारियों को मौजूदा कानूनों के प्रति संवेदनशील बनाने की जरूरत बताई

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डों पर काम करने वाली क्षेत्रीय एजेंसियों के लिए यह बेहद जरूरी है कि वे अपने अधिकारियों को मौजूदा कानूनों के बारे में पहले से ही संवेदनशील बनाएं, खासकर तब जब वे किसी अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्री को हिरासत में लेने या गिरफ्तार करने जैसा गंभीर कदम उठाने जा रहे हों।

जस्टिस विक्रम नाथ और जस्टिस संदीप मेहता की बेंच ने यह टिप्पणी उस समय की, जब उन्होंने प्रवासी भारतीय (एनआरआई) रॉकी अब्राहम की गिरफ्तारी और उनके खिलाफ शुरू की गई आपराधिक कार्यवाही को रद्द कर दिया। अब्राहम पिछले बीस वर्षों से इटली में बसे भारतीय नागरिक हैं। जनवरी 2025 में अब्राहम को दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर हिरासत में लिया गया था। उस पर आरोप था कि वह अपने सामान में हिरण की सींग लेकर जा रहे थे, जो कि वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 के तहत प्रतिबंधित है। हवाई अड्डे के अधिकारियों ने बैग से सींग बरामद होने के बाद उसके खिलाफ इस अधिनियम की धारा 39, 49 और 51 के तहत प्राथमिकी दर्ज की थी और उसे गिरफ्तार कर लिया था।

जस्टिस विक्रम नाथ और जस्टिस संदीप मेहता की बेंच ने यह टिप्पणी उस समय की, जब उन्होंने प्रवासी भारतीय (एनआरआई) रॉकी अब्राहम की गिरफ्तारी और उनके खिलाफ शुरू की गई आपराधिक कार्यवाही को रद्द कर दिया। अब्राहम पिछले बीस वर्षों से इटली में बसे भारतीय नागरिक हैं। बताया जा रहा है कि जनवरी 2025 में अब्राहम को दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर हिरासत में लिया गया था।

शीर्ष कोर्ट की दो सदस्यीय बेंच ने यह टिप्पणी की

शीर्ष अदालत ने कहा कि अधिकारियों को पहले जानकारी होनी चाहिए

जनवरी 2025 के मामले में सुनवाई के दौरान यह टिप्पणी की



अब्राहम करीब दो हफ्ते तक हिरासत में रहे

आपराधिक कार्यवाही को रद्द कर दिया रद्द

अब्राहम करीब दो हफ्ते तक हिरासत में रहे। इसके बाद उन्हें कड़ी शर्तों के साथ जमानत मिली, जिसमें भारत छोड़ने पर प्रतिबंध भी शामिल था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने यह भी कहा कि डीएनए जांच के अनुरार जो वस्तु उसके पास मिली, वह वास्तव में रेंडियर (हिरण परिवार का सदस्य) की सींग थी, जो भारत के वन या वन्यजीव कानूनों का उल्लंघन नहीं करती।

सभी कार्यवाहियों को पूरी तरह से अवैध करार देते हुए स्वारिज किया

इसलिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अब्राहम की गिरफ्तारी, प्राथमिकी और उनके खिलाफ सभी कार्यवाहियों को पूरी तरह से अवैध करार देते हुए उन्हें रद्द कर दिया। इसलिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अब्राहम को गिरफ्तारी, प्राथमिकी और उनके खिलाफ सभी कार्यवाहियों को पूरी तरह से अवैध करार देते हुए उन्हें रद्द कर दिया।

अधिकारी सोच-समझकर और कानूनी सलाह लेकर काम करें

शीर्ष कोर्ट ने कहा कि यह कोर्ट महसूस करता है कि अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डों से जुड़े मामलों को देखने वाली एजेंसियों को अपने अधिकारियों को मौजूदा कानूनों की सही जानकारी देना जरूरी है, ताकि वे गिरफ्तारी जैसे सख्त कदम उठाने से पहले सोच-समझकर और कानूनी सलाह लेकर काम करें। कोर्ट ने यह भी कहा कि ऐसे मामलों से देश की अंतरराष्ट्रीय छवि को नुकसान पहुंचता है और संबंधित अधिकारियों का व्यवहार मानवाधिकारों के उल्लंघन की श्रेणी में आ सकता है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट के पास अवैध निर्माण-खंभों से विमानों को खतरा

चिंता

अमित झा

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट के समीप हवाई क्षेत्र के अतिक्रमण को लेकर एयरपोर्ट संचालन कंपनी जीएमआर की तरफ से नई दिल्ली जिला डीएम कार्यालय में शिकायत दर्ज कराई गई है। जीएमआर के अनुरोध पर नई दिल्ली डीएम की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनाई गई है जो अतिक्रमण का सर्वे कर उसे हटाएगी।

शिकायत में बताया गया है कि एयरपोर्ट के समीप कई इमारतों एवं बिजली के पोल की ऊंचाई ज्यादा है। इसकी वजह से विमानों के उड़ान भरने एवं उतरने के दौरान हादसा होने का खतरा बढ़ जाता है। बता दें कि

डीएम की अध्यक्षता में बनी कमेटी, सर्वे करके ऊंची इमारतों-खंभों हटेंगे

बीते दिनों अहमदाबाद में हुए विमान हादसे के बाद से दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर भी विशेष सावधानी बरती जा रही है। अधिकारियों की ओर से विमानों की उड़ान प्रभावित करने की आशंका वाली सभी कमियों को दूर किया जा रहा है। कुछ समय पहले एयरपोर्ट अधिकारियों द्वारा एयरपोर्ट के आसपास निरीक्षण में हवाई क्षेत्र का अतिक्रमण पाया गया था। अहमदाबाद में हुए विमान हादसे के बाद जीएमआर की तरफ से एक बार फिर इस मुद्दे को लेकर नई दिल्ली डीएम कार्यालय में शिकायत दी गई है। शिकायत में कहा गया है कि अगर इस अतिक्रमण को नहीं हटाया गया तो वह विमान हादसे



आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट के पास ऊंचे खंभे (लाल घेरे में) लगे हुए हैं। विमानों के सुरक्षित परिचालन के लिए महिपालपुर में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग पर लगे इन खंभों को छोटा किया जाएगा। • सोनू मेहता

का कारण बन सकता है। एयरपोर्ट के सूत्रों ने बताया कि शिकायत पर नई दिल्ली जिला एसडीएम (मुख्यालय) की तरफ से डीएम की अध्यक्षता में

एक कमेटी का गठन किया गया है। कमेटी में वसंत विहार एसडीएम, निगम के एग्जीक्यूटिव इंजीनियर, पीडब्ल्यूडी के एग्जीक्यूटिव

इंजीनियर, एनएचएआई के एग्जीक्यूटिव, एसडीएम डीडीएमए नई दिल्ली और डायल के मैनेजर को सदस्य बनाया गया है।

03

टर्मिनल हैं आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर, साल भर में करोड़ों यात्री करते हैं सफर

06

अधिकारी डीएम की अध्यक्षता वाली कमेटी के सदस्य बनाए गए हैं

बिना अनुमति बनाए गए ऊंचे मकान टूटेंगे

एयरपोर्ट रनवे के सामने वाले रास्ते में बने मकानों का सर्वे होगा, जिसमें ऊंचे मकानों को चिन्हित किया जाएगा। यह देखा जाएगा कि उन्होंने मकान की ऊंचाई क्या किसी विभाग की अनुमति से बनाई है (प्राथमिक जांच में पता चला है कि इस तरह के मकान अवैध तरीके से बनाए गए हैं। इन मकानों की अवैध ऊंचाई तोड़ी जाएगी।

बिजली के पोल छोटे होंगे

सूत्रों ने बताया कि एनएच-8 पर लाइट के लिए लगाए गए कई खंभों की ऊंचाई भी बहुत ज्यादा है। यह ऊंचाई विमान की उड़ान में बाधा डाल सकती है। इसलिए ऐसे खंभों को चिन्हित करने के बाद उनकी ऊंचाई को कम करने का फैसला किया गया है।



Sometimes, beauty gets in the way of functionality. I found Bengaluru's T1 has a cleaner Swiss design celebrating natural lighting, while T2 is more bejewelled but takes very long to navigate. T1 is also easier to maneuver from entrance to gate

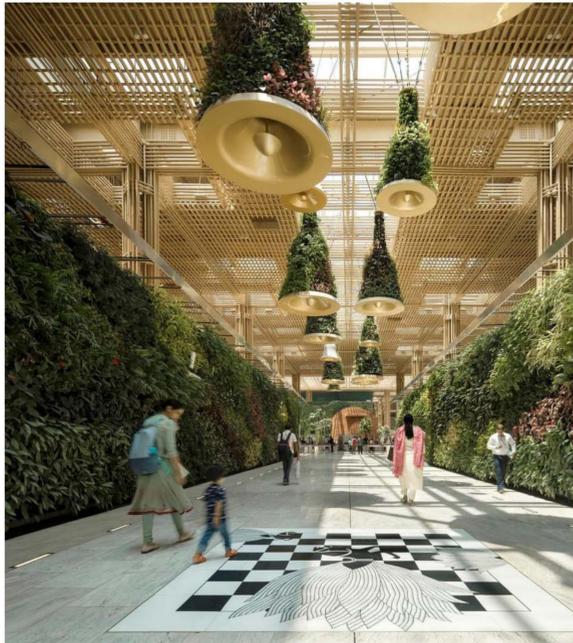
CHITRA VISIWANATH
Architect

Spot the sunflower

This unique programme helps travellers with hidden disabilities (low vision, autism, dementia, hearing loss) receive special assistance. Started at the U.K.'s Gatwick Airport in 2016, the programme is available at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad, and the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru. Typically, a counter at the entrance will hand out a sunflower motif lanyard or button, and all wearers are then assisted to a separate gate, following protocols but with assistance.



DIPITI VARMA NARAIN
Founder, The Silver Surfers Club



Design forward (Clockwise from left) Bamboo and lush greenery at Kempegowda International Airport's Terminal 2 in Bengaluru; Mumbai's T2 terminal; and inside the newly launched Navi Mumbai International Airport. (EKANSH GOEL AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT)



ARE INDIA'S AIRPORTS READY TO TAKE OFF?

The new terminals at Navi Mumbai, Guwahati and Bengaluru are raking in awards for design. But despite the many innovations at Indian airports, are we on a par with the rest of the world?

Anisha Meneses

Actor and director Revathy loves flying from Kochi International Airport — and she flies for work at least twice a month. “It is designed in such a way that it has a single floor for most processes and you go through so easily. Even the pick-up area for cabs is organised so well,” she says. It handles 180-225 flights per day as compared to bigger airports like Delhi and Bengaluru, which handle 800 to 1,450, respectively. “Goa’s airport was also comfortable when I flew from there with my parents, who both used wheelchairs. But Bengaluru’s T2, while beautiful, is too long a walk!” For millions of Indians who choose to fly, airport design is crucial. It makes all the difference between a pleasant travel experience and one filled with stress, serpentine queues and dimly lit interiors.

Airport architecture and design are no longer about just efficiency. Today, globally, the focus is on modernising terminals, enhancing sustainability, and creating intuitive design to improve passenger experience. And India is catching up, even while collapsed roofs and glass panels shattering continue to make headlines. **Big three in the news** Indian airports, in fact, are having a moment — and not just on social media, where newer builds are attracting likes, views and kudos for their biophilic design, craft, and sustainability-forward expressions. This month, the inauguration of the Navi Mumbai International Airport signalled a step forward in hi-tech airport design rooted in Indian tradition and exemplary performance. Designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, its lotus-inspired geometry and dual column system

are striking. The lotus takes the form of 12 sculptural columns with anchors that rise like unfurling petals, while 17 mega columns carry the weight of the concentric petal-like roof canopies. Each roof segment is modelled to manage daylight, wind pressure, and monsoon drainage. Inside, among other design interventions, the check-in hall uses light architecture — such as hollow columns that act as vertical light wells, drawing sunlight deep into the passenger halls — to lend an airiness to the space. Last month, at the International Architecture Awards in Athens, Guwahati International Airport’s Terminal 2 was feted for its cultural storytelling. Inspired by Assam’s role as the gateway to the ‘Northeast’, it draws on the resilience of local bamboo and the elegance of its orchids for its design. “The kopou phool or foxglove orchid is a symbol of beauty and celebration, and Assamese women wear it

during the Bihu festival. In the terminal’s design, this elegance is paired with the versatility of bamboo,” explains Nuru Karim, principal architect of Mumbai-based Nudes Architecture, who designed the soon-to-be-inaugurated terminal. Karim roped in local craftspeople to work on the bamboo structures, and made sure motifs from the region found pride of place — from the traditional *jaapi* (headgear fashioned from the leaves of palm trees) featured across the terminal’s decor, to the wall panelling that integrates the *gamocha* pattern with its lovely interplay of red and white. Another highlight: a ‘sky forest’.

“The landscape design features tropical and subtropical plants native to Assam, alongside bamboo groves and flowering shrubs,” shares Karim. But before it all, there was Bengaluru’s Kempegowda International Airport Terminal 2, which made headlines in 2023 when it bagged the prestigious Prix Versailles Special Prize for an Interior for bringing the ‘garden’ into the airport terminal. From bamboo bells suspended from high ceilings dripping with local plants, to lantern elephants and even an indoor waterfall and cactus garden, the design was carefully curated to reflect conversations with locals, says Peter Lefkowitz, principal architect at Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM). “We spoke with people who grew up in the city and reminisced about tree-lined streets and a certain nostalgic longing for that era. Our aspiration for the terminal was to integrate sustainability using locally sourced materials — ivory brown granite, amber red bricks, and steel, and integrate local art forms.” Between the gate concourses and the terminal building, the “forest belt” spans a 90-metre-wide stretch of planted landscape as passengers cross open-air bridges.

No longer just transit hubs Once upon a time, airports were purely functional, focused on operations and with limited design thinking. Delhi-based architect Gautam Bhatia recalls when the airport was “a derelict warehouse of a building that came alive only when a plane arrived. Even then, both the facilities and the staff were skeletal and essential to basic operations. Baggage was handled manually, passengers never frisked.” Today, however, with India’s air traffic exceeding 350 million in 2024, the country has the third-largest aviation market globally. To meet this robust growth, airport architecture cannot be just about aesthetics.

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Delhiite Divya Prabhu, mother to two toddlers, believes airports could make travel so much easier. “If only they had clean, sanitised strollers available at entry points, instead of making us walk halfway across,” she says. “We have travelled via the airports in New Delhi, Goa and Mumbai, and we have missed simple things like clean bathrooms with diaper changing tables, and play areas.”

“If you are a senior, then wheelchair access as you enter the airport and shorter distances to navigate are more important, says 78-year-old Usha Varma. “I usually fly out of Bengaluru and it’s a beautiful space, but we need immediate wheelchair access to travel through such a large terminal, especially if you have a

ARE INDIA'S AIRPORTS READY TO TAKE OFF?

carry-on bag in tow,” says Varma. Her pick of best airports are Abu Dhabi and Japan. “The staff is kind and they are proactive with wheelchairs.” For Bengaluru-based Vinita Chaitanya, travel is a work necessity. Constantly on the move, airports feature frequently in the interior stylist and designer’s day-to-day, and she is vocal about them, even taking to Instagram Stories to document the best and the worst. The new lounge at



Bengaluru’s T2 she deems “well designed, with plenty of space to relax while you wait”, but points out that security lines could be better managed. “For every 10 security lines, there’s only one for women. That needs to change,” she states. “We need to space out elevators for those with wheelchairs and have more than one escalator leading to the baggage carousels. That space needs to be better managed.” Newer projects are factoring in aircraft size, air traffic,

security requirements, and design features such as biophilic interiors and intuitive wayfinding — using natural light and curved pathways — to balance passenger experience with the functional needs of the airport. One of the areas they are succeeding in is embracing a sense of place by honouring indigenous materials and craftsmanship, and shaping guest experience through regionally inspired dining and art installations by local artists. At Kempegowda, for example, SOM used materials such as bamboo, brick, and natural stone, a combination that is rarely seen in airports. In Guwahati, Karim used bamboo extensively “to lower the



IRAM SULTAN
Interior designer

An important aspect is to design pod hotels and rooms, like they have in Japan, for airports that host a lot of layovers. Instead, we are stuck for hours, without room to stretch and relax

GAUTAM BHATIA
Architect



Internationally, Helsinki is my favorite. It is the quietest airport I’ve been to; it has great interactive digital visuals showing the change of seasons and grounds you to feel the space. I think we are doing well with clean air and well-managed spaces in Indian airports. But going forward, we need more quiet spaces



Art and design Guwahati International Airport’s Terminal 2 won the 2025 International Architecture Award. Its design highlights local bamboo and orchids; (top left) Vinita Chaitanya.

carbon footprint, and green corridors to improve the microclimate”. At Kochi, Revathy says the wooden furniture immediately connects her to the State. “It’s a nice touch, and I don’t know how they maintain them!”

What works vs. what needs work India has 117 domestic and 33 international airports (according to the Ministry of Civil Aviation). With the numbers only set to grow, it is imperative to have a deep understanding of long-term needs, with built-in flexibility to absorb future technology. “All gates at T2 in Bengaluru are equipped with ‘swing’ capacity, or the flexibility to handle different wide-body and narrow-body aircraft,” explains Lefkowitz. “This plan allows the terminal to thrive as an international travel destination as it increases annual passenger



Art and design Guwahati International Airport’s Terminal 2 won the 2025 International Architecture Award. Its design highlights local bamboo and orchids; (top left) Vinita Chaitanya.

Accessibility and inclusive design

Function and aesthetics cannot be all that an airport offers. The best terminal designs also use empathy as a tool to cater to a wide range of travellers’ needs, abilities, and emotions. Ligi Sunil and her husband Sunil Baby used to travel regularly with their son, Jaiden, who had cerebral palsy. When he passed away in 2023 at the age of 18, the couple founded 18NotOut in Bengaluru in his memory. It assists families in planning accessible travel through airports, stations and hotels, tailoring itineraries to people with special needs. “I would rate T2 at the Bengaluru Airport the best for people with special needs and disabilities, and that’s gender- and age-agnostic. Post booking, Kempegowda has a WhatsApp group that guides them to the airport entrance where they are greeted by a staff member who stays with them through the journey,” says Baby. “In terms of training, the airport has far more nuance in the way they approach families and children, and how they lead people to a room for those with neurodivergence. However, we need more thought into designing food courts that are open to wheelchairs at the table, more handholding around the baggage carousel, and the use of the aerobridge with passengers on wheelchairs.” Vmaya Chinappa, CEO of social enterprise Inclusionza, a part of eNABLE India group (which provides a wide range of disability inclusion services to organisations), says that being someone who travels with prosthetic limbs is tough, and certain provisions can make travel more inclusive. “Travel must go beyond compliance, from the physical infrastructure to the staff who need to be sensitised to act with empathy while dealing with the needs of passengers. Earlier, people had to remove prostheses to go through security, but now that protocol has changed. That’s a step in the right direction.” Inclusionza helped design the Sensory Room at the Bengaluru airport, the first of its kind in the country, to cater to a spectrum of people who are not neurotypical. Chinappa explains, “Many passengers need assistance to remain calm and we offer low sensory inputs, softer sounds and weighted blankets. We have received positive responses on social media, and other airports have reached out to explore such initiatives.”



Terminal 2 in Mumbai is well-maintained and easy to get through. Also, the staff is attentive. While travelling from there last year, I had not booked a wheelchair. But they noticed my gait and made it a point to request one for me. It made the whole journey so much smoother, and was a welcome reminder how these positive experiences leave a lasting impression

YVONNE RASQUINHA
Senior traveller



Positive change The Navi Mumbai airport facade, and (below) travellers at Mumbai T2. (SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT)

Naran Lambah, the conservation architect behind the revival of the David Sassoon Library and Reading Room, and a frequent traveller with an expectedly critical eye for design. “Having a certain amount of natural lighting solves this, and intuitive wayfinding also helps people navigate the spaces easily. Bengaluru and Mumbai T2 are good examples for this, as there’s ample natural light.” Chaitanya has a bone to pick about international transfers. “You often have to leave the airport and re-enter with your bag. At Delhi, I had to get my bags and transfer them to a second luggage belt, all located in different areas. It’s such an inconvenience at 3 a.m. That can definitely be streamlined.” The interior designer adds that the signs at the Dubai airport to specify queue wait times are helpful, and could be a lesson for us. “We can also balance technology with personnel, train them to direct passengers well [seniors or those with visible or invisible disabilities]. And more medical facilities spread over terminals is also a good idea.”

While there are lounges aplenty, many travellers ask that architects look into creating smaller open areas and more free play areas. Delhi architect Bhatia feels airports should incorporate a rooftop open garden lounge that taps into the local milieu and weather. “We can opt for open areas where security protocols can still be maintained. Jakarta airport is interesting in that respect; they have seasonal plants over the walking paths,” he says. Prabhu says that among all the fancy stores and restaurants, there should be a small kiosk for parents where you can find wipes, and other travel essentials for young children. Places to engage kids are also important.” At older airports, a lot of this can be addressed by renovation or retrofitting, provided that their structural integrity remains sound and aligns with long-term plans. “Retrofitting helps conserve resources, preserve heritage, and modernise existing systems,” says Karim of Nudes Architecture. “However, when structural limitations or rising passenger demand exceed safe and efficient capacity, a complete rebuild becomes the



more practical and future-ready solution.”

Airports as living ecosystems As per the International Air Transport Association, the number of operational airports in India has grown from 74 to 162 in just under a decade, with plans for expansion to 350 by 2047. Meanwhile, the global airport construction market is projected to reach \$1.8 trillion by 2030, according to February’s ‘Airport Construction - Global Strategic Business Report’ from Research and Markets. All this means that trends will change

Jam at the airport

From mid-2025, the Delhi International Airport Limited has introduced Del Vibes across the Indira Gandhi International Airport. It transforms the airport terminals into a concert venue, with music and dance performances, and workshops. While the schedule is subject to change, travellers can expect Bangali Fusion by the Pancham Group (October), ghazals by Suraangam Group (November), and Konkani music by Nacho Group (December).



Paws and Peace In August, two toy poodle therapy dogs were recruited by Hyderabad’s Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. Since then, the dogs, accompanied by trained handlers, interact with travellers for four to six hours each day — helping calm and comfort them — at designated areas after the security check point, both in the domestic and international departure areas.

constantly — think AI, robotics for passengers, and net-zero terminal buildings (aviation contributes to 2%-3% of global greenhouse gas emissions). According to S.R. Sikka, principal architect of New Delhi-based Sikka Associate Architects, which has designed 30 Indian terminals over four decades, “Sustainability and climate resilience must be embedded at the core of airport design. It begins with climate-responsive planning: optimising orientation, daylighting, shading, and natural ventilation to reduce energy demand. Equally important is on-site renewable energy generation, and adaptive design strategies that build resilience — through stormwater management, flexible infrastructure, and materials suited to changing climatic conditions.” Karim echoes this, adding that in the future, “terminals could be built with smart materials that are climate resilient, respond to passengers with haptic technology, and even create their own clean energy.” Technology would play a big part, too. “With AI managing flows, waiting areas may disappear, and the terminal itself will act like a sentient environment — spaces that can sense people, understand moods, and adjust light, sound, or air to improve comfort. By mid-century, the airport may no longer feel like a machine for travel, but more like a living organism — part transport hub, part public square, part power plant — reshaping how we travel, interact, and belong,” he concludes.

The freelance writer is based in Chennai.

Corporate Communications Directorate

TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

Flights resume at Dhaka int'l airport after fire disrupts ops

Ahsan Tasnim | TNN

Dhaka: Nearly a dozen incoming flights were diverted from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) in Dhaka to Shah Amanat International Airport in Chattogram and Osmani International Airport in Sylhet on Saturday afternoon following the outbreak of a fire in the cargo section of HSIA.

Airport officials said flight operations resumed after 9pm on Saturday. The fire has been largely brought under control.

According to officials, the fire started around 2.30 pm near Gate No. 8 in the cargo area of the airport. "All our aircraft are confirmed safe. Further updates will be provided as the situation develops," a spokesperson for HSIA told the media.

The interim govt has formed a seven-member committee to investigate the fire.



A fire burns through the cargo section of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka on Saturday

The probe body will identify the cause of the fire, assess damage, determine responsibility, and recommend measures to prevent future incidents. The committee will submit a report to the MD and CEO in five working days.

Responding to the fire outbreak in light of other such incidents in the recent past, the interim govt said on Saturday night it is aware of "public concern" regarding some major fires at several locations

across the country, and any credible evidence of sabotage or arson would invite swift and resolute action.

"We wish to assure all citizens that the security services are investigating each incident thoroughly and protecting lives and property with utmost vigilance," a statement shared by the Chief Adviser's press wing said.

No act of criminality or provocation would be allowed to disrupt public life and the political process.

India moots airline health score to protect airports

Manju.V@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: When airlines face financial troubles or shut down, they leave behind unpaid bills owed to airports. Raising concerns over losses suffered by airports, India has proposed the creation of a global 'Airline Health Score' (AHS), in a working paper presented at the recently concluded International Civil Aviation Organisation's 42nd Assembly in Montreal.

AHS is a system to rate financial and operational strength of airlines. It would help airports protect themselves from losses caused by delayed payments or airline failures. India said the new score would make it easier for airports to judge the financial reliability of the airlines. AHS will be a performance index for airlines, helping airports gauge if an airline can pay the bills raised by the airport. "Airport operators extend critical services — including aeronautical and ground handling — often on credit. In the absence of an early warning system

WHAT INDIA PROPOSES TO ICAO

➤ Support for global working group to study and develop standardized Airline Credit Score Rating system
Encourage cooperation from states, airport operators, and industry associations

Airline Health Score framework to be based on:

Operational Metrics: On-time performance, cancellations, load factor, fleet age, Aircraft Flying Hours, Aircraft on Ground Hours
Financial Metrics: Revenue per available seat kilometer (RASK), cost per ASK (CASK), liquidity ratios

Safety Metrics: Incident/accident rates, audit findings, SMS maturity.

Customer Experience: Complaint resolution rate, baggage handling, digital adoption

AHS should be:

Data-driven: Leveraging ICAO eTools, airline filings, and na-



tional databases

Scalable: Applicable to both domestic and international operators

Transparent: With periodic public disclosures and benchmarking
➤ AAI operates about 134 airports and provides air navigation facilities

➤ According to govt data, Indian carriers owed outstanding dues worth ₹2189 crores and foreign carriers, ₹285 crores to AAI, as of March 2019

or creditworthiness indicator, operators are unable to proactively mitigate risks associated with airline financial distress or failure," the paper said. The proposed AHS would use data from pub-

lic and regulatory sources to create a single score showing how healthy an airline is. It would look at operational performance, financial indicators, safety records, and customer service.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

**मिलान में अटका एअर इंडिया का प्लेन,
250 यात्री फंसे, दिवाली पर लौटेंगे भारत
नई दिल्ली।** मिलान से दिल्ली आने वाली एअर इंडिया की फ्लाइट एआई-138 को टेक्निकल दिक्कत के चलते शुक्रवार को कैंसिल करनी पड़ी। ये फ्लाइट बोइंग 787-8 ड्रीमलाइनर विमान से संचालित होनी थी। तकनीकी खामी के कारण 250 से ज्यादा यात्री इटली के मिलान एयरपोर्ट पर फंस गए। -शेष पेज 10 पर

मिलान में अटका एअर इंडिया...

एअर इंडिया ने शनिवार को बताया कि विमान में 'लंबे तकनीकी मेंटेनेंस की जरूरत' के चलते उड़ान रद्द करनी पड़ी। सभी को होटल में ठहराने की व्यवस्था की गई है। हालांकि एयरपोर्ट के नजदीक पर्याप्त होटल न होने के कारण कुछ यात्रियों को दूर स्थित होटलों में ठहराया गया है। यात्रियों को अब 20 अक्टूबर की फ्लाइट्स में रीबुक किया गया है। एक यात्री का शेगिन वीसा 20 अक्टूबर को खत्म हो रहा था, इसलिए उसे 19 अक्टूबर की दूसरी एयरलाइन की फ्लाइट में भेजा जा रहा है, ताकि वीसा की वैधता बनी रहे।

भास्कर एक्सक्लूसिव

3 घंटे तक का सफर 10 से 12 मिनट में पूरा होगा

दिल्ली में एयर टैक्सी 2028 से, शुरुआती किराया होगा ₹500

ईवीटॉल के पांच से सात सीटर एयर टैक्सी मॉडल पर काम जारी

एम. रिखाज हाशमी | नई दिल्ली

शहरी ट्रैफिक को चुनौती का तोड़ अब दूर नहीं। सबकुछ तय योजना के अनुसार चला तो 2028 तक भारत के आसमान में एयर टैक्सी उड़ान भरने लगेंगी। ये कहीं से भी सीधे उड़ान भर सकती हैं और कहीं भी लैंड कर सकती हैं। पंजाब के मोहाली स्थित स्टार्टअप नलवा एयरो ने स्वदेशी ईवीटॉल (इलेक्ट्रिक वर्टिकल टेक-ऑफ एंड लैंडिंग) एयर टैक्सी विकसित की है। डीजीसीए ने इसे डिजाइन ऑर्गनाइजेशन अप्रूवल (डीओए) सर्टिफिकेट भी दे दिया है।

नलवा एयरो के सीईओ कुलजीत सिंह संघु बताते हैं, 'कोविड-19 में एक मित्र ने इमरजेंसी मेडिकल इवैक्युएशन की जरूरत बताई। आसपास कोई एयर एम्बुलेंस या हेलीपैड नहीं था। तभी विचार आया कि क्यों न ऐसी मशीन बनाएं जो कहीं से भी वर्टिकल टेक-ऑफ और लैंडिंग कर सके।' इसका डिजाइन चरण पूरा हो चुका है। सब-स्केल प्रोटोटाइप अगले एक माह में तैयार हो जाएगा। यह किफायती एयर मोबिलिटी मध्यम और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग को ध्यान में रखकर तैयार की जा रही है। शुरु में दिल्ली-एनसीआर में लॉन्च होगी। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट से आनंद विहार, नोएडा, गाजियाबाद और पानीपत जैसी जगहों तक सड़क से जाने में एक से तीन घंटे लगते हैं। ईवीटॉल एयर टैक्सी 10 से 12 मिनट में पहुंचा देगी। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट से आनंद विहार का शुरुआती किराया लगभग 500 रु. प्रति व्यक्ति रहने का अनुमान है। दिल्ली के बाद ये मुंबई, कोलकाता और बेंगलुरु सहित अन्य मेट्रो शहरों में भी दिखेगी। संघु के अनुसार ईवीटॉल में 8 रोटार सिस्टम हैं। दो फेल भी हो जाएं तो विमान क्रेश नहीं होगा। तीन बंद होने पर सुरक्षित लैंडिंग संभव है। यह हेलीकॉप्टर से सुरक्षित है। हेलीकॉप्टर की तुलना में 10 गुना शांत और परिचालन लागत में 90% से अधिक सस्ती होगी। हेलीकॉप्टर का परिचालन खर्च 5 लाख रु. प्रति घंटे तक पहुंच सकता है, जबकि ईवीटॉल की लागत इसके 10% से भी कम रहेगी। -शेष पेज 10 पर

भास्कर नॉलेज... टैक्सी की तरह बुक कर सकेंगे

नलवा एयरो का ईवीटॉल भारत में विकसित पहली और सबसे उन्नत एयर टैक्सी तकनीक है। इसके एडवांस फ्लाईंग कंप्यूटर, टिल्टिंग प्रपल्शन सिस्टम और बॉक्स-विंग डिजाइन पर वर्षों शोध हुआ है। विमान 4000 किग्रा अधिकतम टेक-ऑफ भार और 1000 किग्रा पेलोड उठा सकता है। क्रूज स्पीड 350 किमी/घंटा है जो 400 तक जा सकता है। यह एयर टैक्सी, मेडिकल एम्बुलेंस, डिफेंस सर्विलांस, सर्च एंड रेस्क्यू और कार्गो ट्रांसपोर्ट, सभी क्षेत्रों के लिए उपयुक्त है।

- **शहरी ट्रैफिक का हल:** एक तरह का छोटा विमान है, जिसे टैक्सी की तरह बुक कर सकेंगे।
- **जीरो कार्बन:** एटीएफ नहीं, बिजली/हाइड्रोजन

से उड़ेगा। जीरो कार्बन, कम खर्च और आवाज।

- **वर्टिकल तकनीक:** रनवे पर इंतजार नहीं, सीधे उठना और उतरना संभव। इमारतों की छत से भी टेक-ऑफ और लैंडिंग हो सकेगी।
- **फ्लाई बाइ वायर:** पायलट के हाथ में डिजिटल कंट्रोल, सबकुछ कंप्यूटर नियंत्रित।
- **इंडिया मेक:** स्वदेशी डिजाइन और मेक इन इंडिया मिशन के तहत विकसित किया गया है। इसमें लगी 60% तकनीक घरेलू ही है।
- **जॉब:** नई स्किल, पायलट ट्रेनिंग, मटेनेंस व चार्जिंग इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर में हजारों रोजगार होंगे।
- **दूरगामी असर:** मेडिकल इमरजेंसी में समय की बचत होगी। कम खर्च में मरीज को जल्द से जल्द उपयुक्त अस्पताल में पहुंचा सकेंगे।

इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर... मेट्रो स्टेशन में ही बन सकेंगे वर्टिपोर्ट



वर्टिपोर्ट के लिए मौजूदा शहरी ढांचा आधार बन सकता है। मेट्रो स्टेशन व बड़ी इमारतों की छतों पर इनकी लैंडिंग संभव है। सरकार हर 50 किमी पर 1000 हेलीपैड्स विकसित कर रही है। वे वर्टिपोर्ट बन सकते हैं। हेलीकॉप्टर के लिए 20x25 मीटर जगह जरूरी है। ईवीटॉल को सिर्फ 12x12 मीटर जगह चाहिए।

तकनीक... सिंगल चार्ज में 300 किमी तक उड़ान भरेगी टैक्सी

कंपनी दो मॉडलों पर काम कर रही है। पहला, लीथियम आयन बैटरी संचालित है। यह सिंगल चार्ज में 90 मिनट या 300 किमी तक उड़ेगा। दूसरा हाइड्रोजन फ्यूल सेल मॉडल है, जिसकी रेंज 800 किमी तक होगी। फास्ट चार्जर से बैटरी 50 मिनट में चार्ज होगी। कंपनी के 3 प्रमुख मॉडल हैं। 2 स्टेचर वाला एम्बुलेंस वर्जन, 5 से 7 सीटर यात्री एयर टैक्सी और कार्गो मॉडल। एयर टूरिज्म, निगरानी एवं टोही विमान और मेडिकल संस्करण (चिकित्सीय निकासी मॉडल) पर भी काम चल रहा है।

• दुनिया की नजरों में यह रिवॉल्यूशन होगी, लेकिन मैं तकनीकी इवॉल्यूशन मानता हूँ। हमने 3 साल डिजाइनिंग में लगाए। अब ट्रायल और सर्टिफिकेशन जारी है। कोशिश है कि यह हमीरों की सुविधा नहीं, आम नागरिकों की जरूरत बने। - कुलजीत सिंह संघु, सीईओ, नलवा एयरो

भविष्य... तीन साल बाद बिना पायलट के भी उड़ान संभव

नलवा एयरो ने पायलट आधारित और ऑटोनॉमिस यानी बिना पायलट उड़ान, दोनों तकनीकों पर समानांतर सफलता हासिल की है। पहले तीन वर्षों तक यात्री उड़ानें पायलट आधारित रहेंगी। कार्गो फ्लाइट्स पहले ही ऑटोनॉमिस के तौर पर शुरू की जा सकती हैं। तीन साल के बाद ऑटोनॉमिस यात्री उड़ानों पर विचार किया जाएगा। जब तक नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय की सभी सर्टिफिकेशन संबंधी शर्तें पूरी नहीं होतीं, तब तक ऑटोनॉमिस यात्री उड़ानें शुरू नहीं की जाएंगी।

दिल्ली में एयर टैक्सी 2028 से...

कंपनी के अनुसार ये एयरक्राफ्ट फेडरल एविएशन एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (एफएए) और यूरोपियन यूनियन एविएशन सेफ्टी एजेंसी (ईएएसए) के रेगुलेशंस के अनुरूप तैयार किए जा रहे हैं। अभी गुजरात और आंध्र प्रदेश में ईवीटॉल के लिए सैंडबॉक्स ट्रायल साइट तैयार की जा रही हैं। इनमें वर्ल्ड इकोनॉमिक फोरम भी भागीदार है। एयरोडायनामिक टेस्टिंग जारी है। कंपनी का लक्ष्य है कि 2028 तक कॉमर्शियल ऑपरेशन शुरू कर दिए जाएं।

दुनिया में अभी यूएई, अमेरिका और चीन जैसे कुछ देश ही इस तकनीक पर तेजी से काम कर रहे हैं। वैश्विक निवेश संस्था मार्गन स्टैनली की रिपोर्ट बताती है कि 2050 तक ईवीटॉल का बाजार आकार 9 ट्रिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर तक पहुंच सकता है। भारत इस ग्रोथ में निर्णायक भूमिका निभा सकता है, क्योंकि यहां श्रम, इंजीनियरिंग और विनिर्माण लागत अन्य देशों की तुलना में कई गुना कम है।



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DESHBANDHU

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19 OCTOBER 2025

इंडिगो एयरबस से खरीदेगी 30 और ए350-900 विमान

नई दिल्ली। विमान सेवा कंपनी इंडिगो ने एयरबस को 30 और ए350-900 विमानों की खरीद का पक्का ऑर्डर दिया है। एयरलाइंस और फ्रांसीसी विमान निर्माता कंपनी ने बताया कि इंडिगो ने सत्तर ए350-900 विमानों के खरीद अधिकार में से 30 को पक्के ऑर्डर में बदलने के लिए करार किया। उसने पिछले साल अप्रैल में तीन ए350-900 विमानों के ऑर्डर दिए थे और 70 विमानों के खरीद अधिकार के लिए समझौता किया था। इंडिगो के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी पीटर एलबर्स ने कहा कि यह ऑर्डर भारतीय विमानन के भविष्य और एयरबस के साथ सहयोग में कंपनी के भरोसे का प्रमाण है। उल्लेखनीय है कि पिछले साल दिये 30 विमानों के ऑर्डर के साथ कंपनी ने पहली बार वाइड बॉडी विमानों को बेड़े में शामिल करने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाया था जो लंबी दूरी की उड़ानों के लिए उपयुक्त होते हैं।



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ड्रीमलाइनर विमान में खराबी, उड़ान रद्द

नई दिल्ली, प्रे: मिलान हवाई अड्डे पर एअर इंडिया के एक ड्रीमलाइनर विमान में शुक्रवार को आई तकनीकी खामी के चलते एयरलाइन को अपनी दिल्ली उड़ान रद्द करनी पड़ी। इससे दिवाली मनाने दिल्ली आ रहे 250 से अधिक यात्री इटली के इस शहर में फंस गए।

अधिकांश यात्रियों ने 20 अक्टूबर को फ्लाइट के लिए बुकिंग करा ली है, जोकि दिवाली का दिन भी है। एअर इंडिया ने शनिवार को कहा कि

17 अक्टूबर को मिलान से दिल्ली के लिए उड़ान भरने वाली फ्लाइट एआइ 138 को विमान में तकनीकी कारणों के कारण रद्द किया गया। यात्रियों के लिए पर्याप्त सुविधाओं की कमी को लेकर इंटरनेट मीडिया पर पोस्ट भी किए गए। एयरलाइन ने कहा- यात्रियों को होटल में ठहराने की व्यवस्था की गई है। हालांकि सीमित उपलब्धता के कारण, ठहरने की व्यवस्था हवाई अड्डे के बाहर की गई है।

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DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

80 अरब डालर के निवेश से विस्तार करेगी एअर इंडिया

जयप्रकाश रंजन • जागरण

नई दिल्ली: टाटा समूह के स्वामित्व वाली एयर इंडिया अपनी महत्वाकांक्षी विस्तार योजना को नई गति दे चुकी है। इस विस्तार योजना को अगले एक दशक तक कई चरणों में लागू किया जाएगा। विस्तार योजना की व्यापकता को इस बात से समझा जा सकता है कि अभी तक बोईंग और एयरबस से कुल 570 नए विमानों की खरीद का समझौता करने के बाद कंपनी ने इन दोनों कंपनियों से 300 और नए विमानों की आपूर्ति को लेकर बात शुरू की है।

वैसे आधिकारिक तौर पर एअर इंडिया ने अपनी कुल निवेश योजना के बारे में कुछ नहीं बताया है, लेकिन माना जा रहा है कि इन योजनाओं पर 80 अरब डालर तक की लागत आएगी। अभी कंपनी के पास करीब दो सौ के करीब



- फिलीपींस के बाद कई नई उड़ानें शुरू करेगी टाटा समूह की विमानन कंपनी
- एशिया, अफ्रीका, अमेरिका के लिए नई रूटों पर अध्ययन जारी, फैसला जल्द

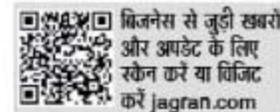
है। लेकिन पिछले दो वर्षों में कुल 570 विमानों की खरीद का समझौता किया गया है। जो विमानन इतिहास में एकमुश्त दिया गया सबसे बड़ा आर्डर है। वर्ष 2023 में 470 विमानों का और बाद में वर्ष 2025 में 100 विमानों का समझौता किया गया है। एअर इंडिया 300 और नए विमान खरीदने की संभावना पर विचार कर रही है। इन विमानों की आपूर्ति वर्ष 2025 के अंत या वर्ष 2026 के शुरुआत से हो जाएगी। दुनिया की दिग्गज विमानन कंपनी यूनाइटेड एयरलाइंस (1000 विमान),

अमेरिका एयरलाइंस (1000 विमान) और चाइना साउथर्न एयरलाइंस (600 विमान) अभी एअर इंडिया से काफी आगे हैं।

कंपनी के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि नए विमान एअर इंडिया की वैश्विक ब्रांड इमेज को मजबूत करने में सबसे अहम भूमिका निभाएंगे। एअर इंडिया इसी सोच के साथ पिछले दो वर्षों से घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय रूटों का व्यापक अध्ययन कर रही है। एअर इंडिया की नजर दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई देशों, अफ्रीका और अमेरिका के बाजारों

पर खास तौर पर है।

एअर इंडिया के सीईओ और एमडी कैपबेल विल्सन ने कहा कि हमारी विस्तार योजना भारत को दुनिया से जोड़ने का एक मजबूत माध्यम है। फिलीपींस जैसी उभरती अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के साथ सीधी कनेक्टिविटी न केवल यात्रियों को सुविधा प्रदान करेगी, बल्कि एअर इंडिया को वैश्विक स्तर पर एक प्रमुख कंपनी के रूप में स्थापित करेगी। एक अन्य अधिकारी ने बताया कि नए रूट पर सेवा शुरू करने के साथ सेवा गुणवत्ता पर भी ध्यान होगा। चीन के लिए भी जल्द ही सीधी उड़ान शुरू होगी। कंपनी की विस्तार योजना में कंपनी नोएडा और नयी मुंबई के नए हवाई अड्डों की भी अहम भूमिका होगी।



बिजनेस से जुड़ी खबरों और अपडेट के लिए रकून करें या विजिट करें jagran.com



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FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

18 OCTOBER 2025

IndiGo to purchase 30 more wide-body A350 planes

IndiGo on Friday signed a contract with Airbus to buy an additional 30 A350-900 aircraft, taking the total firm orders for the wide-body planes to 60.

The country's largest airline, which has been expanding its international network, has now the purchase rights for another 40 A350 family aircraft.

The airline said it has signed

a contract with Airbus confirming the conversion of 30 out of its 70 purchase rights of Airbus A350-900 aircraft into firm orders.

"With this, IndiGo doubles its wide-body order from 30 to 60 Airbus A350-900 aircraft," it said in a release.

In June, both sides had inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for these additional 30 aircraft. **-PTI**



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

मिलान-दिल्ली उड़ान रद्द होने से 250 यात्री फंसे

परेशानी

नई दिल्ली, एजेसी। एयर इंडिया के एक ड्रीमलाइनर विमान में शुक्रवार को मिलान एयरपोर्ट पर तकनीकी खराबी आ गई। इसके चलते मिलान से दिल्ली आने वाली एआई-138 उड़ान को रद्द करना पड़ा। इससे 250 से अधिक यात्री इटली के मिलान में फंस गए।

एयर इंडिया ने शनिवार को बयान जारी कर कहा कि सभी प्रभावित यात्रियों को होटल में ठहरने की व्यवस्था की गई है।

हालांकि सीमित उपलब्धता के कारण एयरपोर्ट के आसपास के क्षेत्र के बाहर ठहरने की व्यवस्था की गई है। एयर इंडिया और अन्य एयरलाइनों में सीट की उपलब्धता के आधार पर यात्रियों की बुकिंग 20 अक्टूबर या उसके बाद की वैकल्पिक उड़ानों में कर दी गई है।

एयर इंडिया ने कहा, एक महिला यात्री का शंभिन वीजा 20 अक्टूबर को समाप्त हो रहा था। उन्हें तुरंत 19 अक्टूबर को दूसरे विमान में बुक किया गया है। विमानन कंपनी ने कहा कि यात्रियों की सुरक्षा सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है।

Passengers stranded as glitch grounds Air India plane in Milan

Jagriti Chandra

NEW DELHI

Air India passengers returning to India for the Deepavali holidays were stranded after their flight from Milan in Italy to Delhi on Friday was cancelled following a snag.

Young mothers expressed worries about food for their toddlers, and others were concerned about elderly passengers allegedly abandoned at the airport.

The flight (AI 138) was scheduled to take off from Milan at 9 p.m. local time.

No valid visa

At least some passengers have been informed that they will be accommodated on a flight four days later on October 21, leaving them without a valid visa

or spare cash.

While some of the passengers were taken to a hotel outside Milan, they were later told by the hotel to check out without notice, one passenger told *The Hindu*.

Seat availability

Air India, in a press statement, said that passengers affected were provided hotel accommodation and were rebooked on alternative flights on or after October 20, based on seat availability with Air India and other airlines.

In one case where a passenger's Schengen visa was due to expire on October 20, the traveller was rebooked on another airline's flight departing Milan on October 19 to ensure compliance with her visa validity.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDU

DELHI

18 OCTOBER 2025



On Nov. 9, China Eastern to restart Shanghai-Delhi flights

China Eastern Airlines will restart flights between Shanghai and New Delhi from November 9 with thrice weekly flights, CCTV said. They will be operated on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. DGCA officials say there are also requests from Chinese carriers such as Air China (Beijing-New Delhi flights) and Shandong (Kunming -Delhi flights) for passenger services as well as China Southern (Guangzhou -Delhi) and Sichuan Airline's (Chengdu-Delhi) for cargo services.



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HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

China Eastern Airlines to resume direct flights

Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

BEIJING: State-backed China Eastern Airlines will resume Shanghai-Delhi flights from November 9, the airline's website showed on Saturday, as China and India resume direct air links amid a diplomatic thaw after a five-year freeze.

The flights will operate three times a week on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, the airline's online ticket sales platform showed. China Eastern Airlines did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment.

India's foreign ministry said earlier this month that commercial flights between the two neighbouring countries would

restart after a five-year freeze.

The announcement followed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit to China in over seven years, for a summit meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation regional security bloc.

The two sides discussed ways to improve trade ties, while Modi raised concerns about India's burgeoning bilateral trade deficit.

India and China's foreign ministries did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the Shanghai-Delhi flights.

India's largest carrier, IndiGo, previously announced it would start daily non-stop flights between Kolkata and Guangzhou.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

18 OCTOBER 2025

{ BUSINESS } EXPANSION PLAN

IndiGo to buy 30 A350-900 planes



IndiGo on Friday announced a firm order to buy 30 more A350-900 planes from Airbus as India's largest airline seeks to have more wide-body aircraft for its international expansion. The airline, which has been increasing its international operations, has over 400 planes in its fleet and over 900 aircraft on order. With the latest announcement from IndiGo, which did not disclose financial details, the total confirmed orders for A350-900 now stands at 60. Separately, it has signed an agreement with Rolls-Royce to equip its Airbus A350 fleet with Trent XWB-84 engines. HTC



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LOKH SATYA

DELHI

19 OCTOBER 2025

चाइना ईस्टर्न एयरलाइंस की दिल्ली- शंघाई उड़ान 9 नवंबर से होगी शुरू

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्य। चीन और भारत के बीच हवाई संपर्क बहाल होने के बीच चाइना ईस्टर्न एयरलाइंस आगामी 9 नवंबर से चीन की आर्थिक राजधानी माने जाने वाले शंघाई और दिल्ली के बीच उड़ानें शुरू करेगी।

एयरलाइन्स की शंघाई में शनिवार को जारी एक विज्ञप्ति के अनुसार ये उड़ानें एयरबस A330-200 वाइड-बॉडी एयरक्राफ्ट से

- चीन और भारत के बीच ये उड़ानें प्रत्येक बुधवार, शनिवार और रविवार को संचालित की जाएंगी

संचालित होंगी।

प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार चीन और भारत के बीच ये उड़ानें प्रत्येक बुधवार, शनिवार और रविवार को संचालित की जाएंगी। शंघाई के पुडोंग एयरपोर्ट से उड़ान संख्या

MU563 स्थानीय समय के हिसाब से दोपहर 12:50 बजे रवाना होगी और भारतीय समय के हिसाब से शाम 5:45 बजे नई दिल्ली के इंदिरा गांधी इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर पहुंचेगी। चाइना ईस्टर्न एयरलाइंस की वापसी उड़ान, MU564, दिल्ली से शाम 7:55 बजे निकलेगी और अगले दिन सुबह 4:10 बजे शंघाई पुडोंग पहुंचेगी।



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NAVBHARAT TIMES

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भारत और चीन के बीच 9 नवंबर से फ्लाइट होगी शुरू

■ NBT रिपोर्ट, नई दिल्ली

चीन और भारत को लेकर सीधी उड़ानों को लेकर एक बड़ा अपडेट आया है। चाइना ईस्टर्न एयरलाइंस ने कहा है कि 9 नवंबर से शंघाई-दिल्ली के लिए उड़ानें शुरू करेगी। चाइना ईस्टर्न एयरलाइंस के बयान के मुताबिक चीन-भारत के बीच एयरबस A330-200 वाइड-बॉडी विमान की ओर से संचालित राउंड-ट्रिप उड़ानें होंगी। फिलहाल ये उड़ानें बुधवार, शनिवार और रविवार को ही संचालित होंगी। फ्लाइट MU563, शंघाई पुडोंग हवाई अड्डे से दोपहर 12:50 बजे उड़ान



भरेगी और होगी और शाम 5:45 बजे दिल्ली के इंदिरा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर लैंड करेगी। वहीं वापसी की उड़ान दिल्ली से शाम 7:55 निकलेगी और अगले दिन सुबह 4:10 बजे शंघाई पुडोंग में लैंड करेगी।

Airfares soar during Diwali, Kali Puja despite DGCA advisory

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
Kolkata, 17 October

Despite a directive from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to ensure that airfares remain affordable during the festive season, ticket prices on key routes to Kolkata have skyrocketed ahead of Kali Puja.

Airlines were advised to increase the number of flights in response to soaring demand, but the move seems to have had little effect on fares.

According to travel portals, a one-way economy-class ticket from Mumbai to Kolkata, which usually costs between Rs 7,000 and Rs 8,000, shot up to an astonishing Rs 27,000 on Thursday.

Airfares from Bengaluru, Delhi, and Hyderabad have also surged sharply. Even business-class fares have climbed steeply, with some tickets now priced at over Rs 70,000, compared to the usual Rs 30,000-Rs 35,000 range. With Kali Puja on 20 October, many travellers are taking advantage of the long festive weekend that includes Diwali and Bhai Phonta, prompting a rush of passengers flying

THURSDAY FIGURES:

▶ **DOMESTIC ARRIVALS -**
172 FLIGHTS / 28,933
PASSENGERS

▶ **DOMESTIC DEPARTURES -**
171 FLIGHTS / 23,469
PASSENGERS

▶ **INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS -**
19 FLIGHTS / 3,278
PASSENGERS

▶ **INTERNATIONAL**
DEPARTURES - 18 FLIGHTS /
2,114 PASSENGERS

home to Kolkata.

Those who could not make it during Durga Puja are now choosing this period to reunite with family and friends. On Thursday, airfares from Mumbai to Kolkata remained around Rs 27,000, and were still hovering near Rs 26,500 for Saturday. Bengaluru-Kolkata tickets, which typically cost Rs 7,000-Rs 8,000, were listed at Rs 15,500 on Thursday and Rs 18,500 for Saturday. From Delhi, the price jumped from Rs 7,000 to Rs 15,000, while Hyderabad flyers were paying more than Rs 18,000 for a one-way trip to the city.

Interestingly, while inco-

ming fares to Kolkata have spiked, outbound flights to metros such as Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru remain at normal levels.

A senior travel agent said the surge in fares was driven by a massive jump in demand. "Many people are flying back home to celebrate Diwali with their families. The rush began from Thursday as the long weekend starts," he explained.

He, however, noted that the increase was less drastic than two years ago.

"In 2023, the Mumbai-Kolkata fare had crossed Rs 40,000.

This year, though it's still high, the jump is slightly moderate," said the travel consultant, who added that he had booked his own ticket for Rs 8,000 a day earlier — a fare now costing nearly Rs 30,000. Asked why DGCA's directive failed to curb the hike, he said, "DGCA advised airlines to keep fares reasonable but did not set any upper limit, so there's no real cap." Airport sources confirmed that flight movement has remained almost unchanged despite assurances of additional services.

Snag spoils Diwali plans for 255 flyers stranded in Milan

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Diwali plans of 256 passengers, and over 10 crew members, heading home for the festival were spoilt when an Air India Dreamliner supposed to fly them from Milan to Delhi on Friday developed a snag and the flight had to be cancelled. One passenger whose Schengen visa was expiring on Oct 20 has been rebooked on another airline which is supposed to reach here before Diwali while others will be sent home on alternate flights after Monday.

In a statement, AI said: "AI 138 from Milan to Delhi on Oct 17 was cancelled due to an extended technical requirement on the aircraft scheduled to operate the flight, prioritising the safety of all passengers and crew. All affected passengers have been provided hotel accommodations. However due to limited availability accommodations were arranged outside the immediate vicinity of the airport."

"Passengers have been rebooked on alternative flights on or after Oct 20, based on seat availability with Air India and other airlines. Specifically one of the passengers, whose Schengen visa expires on Oct 20, has been rebooked on another airline's flight departing Milan on Oct 19 to ensure compliance with her visa validity," the spokesperson said.

While regretting the inconvenience to passengers, AI says it "continues to provide all necessary ground assistance, including meals, to all affected passengers... reaffirm our commitment to the safety and well-being of our passengers and crew."

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner VT-ANN had taken off from Delhi on Friday (Oct 17) at 2.54 pm as AI 137 and it reached its destination about nine hours later after taking a longer route bypassing Pakistan airspace. On landing in Italy, a technical issue was detected on the aircraft which could be rectified in time to operate the return AI 138 to Delhi.

AI's legacy widebody fleet remains the Maharaaja's Achilles heel both in terms technical despatch reliability and onboard experience.

Before VT-ANN, another AI Dreamliner also saw an issue. And the Indian DGCA has sought information from Boeing on that case involving the B787 seeing its ram air turbine (RAT) automatically deploy just before touching down in the UK about two weeks back.

Due to limited availability, accommodations were arranged outside the immediate vicinity of the airport



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TIMES OF INDIA

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UP man held for 'groping' techie on Air India flight

Hyderabad: A flyer was arrested for allegedly groping a 38-year-old IT professional on an Air India Express flight from Chennai to Hyderabad on Friday.

The accused has been identified as Vinay Singh Chohan, a 32-year-old native of UP employed with a construction company in Chennai. "The accused was travelling to his native place via Hyderabad. He was under influence of alcohol," an officer said.

According to police officers at Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, the complainant was

seated beside her husband, and the accused next to the couple, on Flight IX-2882.

"The complainant and her husband fell asleep during the journey. Just before the flight was to land, she felt someone touching her. Believing at first that her husband had brushed against her, she ignored the contact. But as the touch felt inappropriate, she opened her eyes and saw the co-passenger's hand on her body," a police officer said. She raised an alarm and confronted the suspect. Crew were alerted. She lodged a complaint after landing.



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TIMES OF INDIA

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5 years later, Chinese carriers to resume India flights from Nov 9

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: China Eastern Airlines will be the first Chinese carrier to resume direct India flights with a thrice-weekly service between Shanghai and Delhi from Nov 9 after an over five-year lull.

IndiGo is the first Indian carrier that will resume China service with a daily between Kolkata and Guangzhou from Oct 26, and then Delhi and Guangzhou from Nov 10. Air India will fly to the country before the end of the year and other Chinese carriers will have India flights too.

In 2019, India and China had 539 direct flights, including by Air India, IndiGo, China Southern and China Eastern. In March 2020, international flights were halted during Covid.

Since the halt, travelling between India and China meant doing so through a third country, mostly in Southeast Asia.

While IndiGo will use its single-aisle Airbus A320s on the first two announced China routes, China Eastern will operate widebody A330s.



IndiGo will be the first Indian carrier to resume China service with a Kolkata-Guangzhou daily from Oct 26. Air India will fly to the country before year-end

The aviation ministry had said on Oct 2 that direct flights between the two countries "follow continuous technical-level engagement between civil aviation authorities as part of broader efforts to normalise bilateral ties. The move will greatly enhance air connectivity, support people-to-people exchanges and contribute to the strengthening of economic collaboration between the two countries".



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TRIBUNE

DELHI

18 OCTOBER 2025

Shanghai-Delhi flights set to resume from November 9

UJWAL JALALI
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 18

In a major step towards normalising bilateral ties and restoring post-pandemic connectivity, China Eastern Airlines on Saturday announced the resumption of direct flights between Shanghai and Delhi, beginning November 9, marking another major China-India route revival after Indigo Airlines.

The airline will operate thrice-weekly round trips — on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays — using an Airbus A330-200 wide-body aircraft. The outbound flight, MU563, will depart Shanghai Pudong International Airport at 12.50 pm and arrive at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport at 5.45 pm (local time). The return flight, MU564, will leave Delhi at 7.55 pm and reach Shanghai at 4.10 am the next day. Tickets for the route are already on sale.

Describing the Shanghai-Delhi corridor as one of the most strategically significant air routes between the two Asian giants, China Eastern said the move would boost business, academic and tourism exchanges. "The resumption of this route marks the full restoration of China Eastern Airlines' China-India network, injecting new impetus into personnel exchanges and economic and trade cooperation between the two countries," the airline said in a statement.



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TRIBUNE

DELHI

18 OCTOBER 2025

AI's Milan-Delhi flight cancelled

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 18

An Air India Dreamliner aircraft faced a technical issue at the Milan airport on Friday, forcing the airline to cancel its

flight to Delhi and leaving over 250 passengers stranded in the Italian city. Most of the passengers have been rebooked in flight on October 20. — PTI