

Four bays at Chennai airport to be closed for upgradation

These bays at T1 domestic terminal will not be open to board flights for 45 days from June 1, say officials; while airside upgrade work is under way, aerobridges will not be available for some flights

PORT CALL

Sunitha Sekar
CHENNAI

At the Chennai airport, four bays will not be open for boarding flights for about 45 days due to airside upgradation work.

According to officials of the Airports Authority of India (AAI), they are strengthening taxiway H in the airport so that code E aircraft (wide-body aircraft that can accommodate as much as 300-400 passengers) can be handled in this taxiway.

While this work is under way, four bays will be closed from June 1 in the T1 domestic terminal, where the majority of the domestic departures and arrival flights are handled.

If these bays are closed, aerobridges will not be available for some flights. Passengers of those flights may have to take the bus



Infra boost: AAI officials say they are strengthening taxiway H at the airport so that code E aircraft can be handled. FILE PHOTO

for boarding. “This is an important and necessary capacity enhancement work that will greatly help in improving efficiency in handling wide-body aircraft. Except for a few, including a portion of taxiway H, most of the taxiways are compatible to handle code E aircraft. The inconvenience will be minor and only for a brief pe-

riod. We will certainly complete the work within 45 days,” an official said.

Only code C flights (like A320 which can handle nearly 140-200 passengers) will be affected by this work, officials said.

A. Shankar, a frequent flyer, said, “It is good if they are doing this to upgrade the airport, but for a senior citizen like me, it’s

definitely going to be difficult. It will be quite tiring to take the bus and then board the aircraft in the absence of an aerobridge. I hope they finish the work within the stipulated time frame and not delay it like the other projects.”

But in a bid to decongest the T1 domestic terminal, they have now decided to shift the ATR departure flights of IndiGo (whose capacity is nearly 80-100 passengers) to the T4 domestic terminal while the arrival will continue in the T1 terminal. There are about 30-35 ATR departure and arrival flights of IndiGo at Chennai airport every day. Thus far, only Air India’s domestic flights were handled in the T4 terminal.

Frequent airport users feel that there should be clear signage put up to inform the passengers that IndiGo’s ATR departures (flight numbers: 7000-7999) have moved to the T4 terminal.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

Heavy rainfall batters Delhi airport's T1 canopy; 49 flights diverted

The canopy at the arrival forecourt of the Delhi airport's Terminal 1 was damaged due to heavy rainfall and thunderstorms on Sunday, causing 49 flight diversions.

Videos widely circulated on social media showed the tensile fabric tearing as water gushed through. The incident comes less than a year after the collapse of a steel-and-concrete canopy at this terminal, which killed a cab driver and injured eight others.

A subsequent investigation by a DGCA-appointed panel attributed the collapse to flawed design, poor workmanship, and inadequate maintenance.

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), the airport operator, on Sunday said the city recorded over 80 mm of

rain and recorded wind speeds of 70-80 km per hour in 45 minutes around 2 am.

"This sudden and concentrated downpour led to temporary water accumulation in and around IGI Airport, briefly impacting operations. As a part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal," DIAL said.

"There was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal. Swift action was taken by the ground teams to restore normal conditions, ensuring safety and continuity of operations with minimal disruption," the operator noted.

DEEPAK PATEL

भारी बारिश से दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट के टी1 का बाहरी हिस्सा हुआ प्रभावित

दीपक पटेल

रविवार तड़के भयंकर तूफान और भारी बारिश के कारण दिल्ली में इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे का कामकाज ठप हो गया। इस वजह से 49 उड़ानों की दिशा बदलनी पड़ी और करीब 650 से अधिक उड़ानों में देरी हुई। साथ ही, टर्मिनल 1 के आगमन क्षेत्र का एक हिस्सा भी क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया।

सोशल मीडिया पर कई वीडियो वायरल हुए जिनमें आगमन क्षेत्र में ऊपरी हिस्से में लगे फैनब्रिक का हिस्सा फटता हुआ और पानी अंदर आता हुआ दिख रहा था। यह घटना पिछले साल 28 जून, 2024 को उसी टर्मिनल पर एक स्टील और कंक्रीट की छत गिरने की घटना के लगभग एक साल बाद हुई है, जिसमें एक टेक्सी ड्राइवर की मौत हो गई थी और आठ अन्य घायल हो गए थे। नागर विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) द्वारा नियुक्त एक पैनल की जांच में छत गिरने का कारण डिजाइन में खामी, खराब कारीगरी और पर्याप्त रखरखाव न किया जाना



बताया गया था।

हवाई अड्डे का संचालन करने वाली दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) ने रविवार को बताया कि शहर में देर रात 2 बजे के आसपास 30 से 45 मिनट के थोड़े वक्त में ही 80 मिलीमीटर (मिमी) से ज्यादा बारिश हुई और हवा की गति 70-80 किलोमीटर (किमी) प्रति घंटा थी। भारत के मौसम विभाग (आईएमडी)

के सफदरजंग स्टेशन ने रात 11:30 बजे से सुबह 5:30 बजे के बीच 81.2 मिमी बारिश और 82 किमी प्रति घंटे तक की तेज हवाएं दर्ज कीं।

डायल ने कहा, 'अचानक अधिक मात्रा में बारिश होने के कारण आईजीआई हवाई अड्डे और उसके आसपास अस्थायी रूप से पानी जमा हो गया, जिससे हवाई अड्डे का कामकाज थोड़ी देर के लिए प्रभावित हुआ। अत्यधिक पानी जमा होने से रोकने के लिए, चरम स्थितियों के लिए ही किए गए उपाय के तहत टी1 आगमन क्षेत्र में लगे बाहरी कपड़े वाले हिस्से में दबाव दिखा हालांकि उसके कारण ही पानी निकालने में मदद मिली।'

मौसम • दिल्ली में 6 घंटे में करीब 3 इंच बारिश आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट: 49 उड़ानें डायवर्ट, टर्मिनल-1 का कैनोपी फटा

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली-एनसीआर में शनिवार-रविवार की दरम्यानी रात आए भीषण तूफान और भारी बारिश ने जनजीवन को अस्त-व्यस्त कर दिया। इस मौसमी उथल-पुथल का सबसे ज्यादा असर आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर पड़ा। शनिवार रात 11:30 बजे से रविवार तड़के 4 बजे के बीच 49 उड़ानें डायवर्ट की गईं, जिनमें 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें शामिल थीं। साथ ही कई उड़ानों में देरी हुई, जबकि कुछ को रद्द करना पड़ा। इसके अलावा आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-1 के फोरकोर्ट एरिया में तेज हवाओं और भारी बारिश के बीच कैनोपी का टैक्सिल फैब्रिक (एक तरह का तिरपाल) फट गया। इसके चलते कैनोपी का ऊपरी हिस्सा दो जगह से क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया, जिससे वहाँ जमा पानी अचानक नीचे गिर गया। गनीमत रही कि इस हादसे में कोई हताहत नहीं हुआ। हालाँकि, तुरंत इसकी मरम्मत का काम शुरू कर दिया गया।

मौसम विभाग (आईएमडी) के अनुसार, दिल्ली के प्रमुख मौसम केंद्र ने शनिवार रात 11:30 बजे से रविवार सुबह 5:30 बजे के



तेज हवाओं और भारी बारिश के कारण आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट का कैनोपी फट गया।

बीच 6 घंटे में 3.2 इंच बारिश दर्ज की। इस दौरान 82 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से हवाएं चलीं। डायल ने बताया कि खराब मौसम के कारण उड़ान संचालन में व्यवधान हुआ, लेकिन सुबह 4 बजे के बाद मौसम में सुधार होने पर सेवाएं धीरे-धीरे सामान्य हो गई हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

■ Heavy Rain Disrupts Flights at Delhi Airport



NEW DELHI As many as 49 flights, including 17 international services, were diverted at Delhi's IGI

Airport due to heavy rain and thunderstorms that battered the national capital overnight. According to the India Meteorological Department, wind speeds reached up to 82 kmph, and the city recorded 81.2 mm of rainfall over six hours—from 11:30 pm on Saturday to 5:30 am on Sunday. A source said the diversions took place between 11:30 pm and 4 am due to bad weather. In a post on X, IndiGo confirmed that bad weather in Delhi had caused temporary disruptions to flight operations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

25 MAY 2025

Videos, photos now banned at Dabolim airport

Window shades to remain closed while aircraft takes off and lands

VIKRAM NAYAK
THE GOAN | VASCO

Planning to preserve cherished memories by clicking videos or photos of loved ones in the terminals at Dabolim airport, and while the aircraft has just taken off or is about to land? Or even sitting by the window seat and watching your plane take off or land at Dabolim airport? All that is now prohibited by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) at Dabolim airport.

According to media reports, these are part of fresh directives issued by DGCA for commercial operations, to all



The Goa International Airport at Dabolim.

scheduled, scheduled commuter, and non-scheduled aircraft operating from defence airfields across the country, particularly those near the western border.

Dabolim airport is one of the busiest airports in the country, serving a large number of passengers daily. The DGCA issued the direc-

sharing of security-related information by the general public.

According to the DGCA directives, all passenger window shades (except at emergency exit windows) must remain closed during take-off and landing, until the aircraft has crossed an altitude of 10,000 feet after departure and descends below the

the civil terminal of a defence airfield.

The DGCA has also stated that aerial or ground photography and videography are strict-

ly prohibited at all times when passengers are inside the terminal, in vehicles en-route to or from the aircraft, outside the aircraft, during landing, at the airport, during pushback, taxiing, take-off, and while the aircraft is flying below 10,000 feet.

The aviation watchdog has stipulated that all operators must take necessary steps to ensure passengers are clearly informed and regularly reminded of the prohibition on photography and videography at military bases, warning that violation of these instructions would lead to legal action.

Flight/cabin crew have been

mandated to make announcements prior to take-off, before cabin securement, and before landing, instructing passengers to lower window shades (except at emergency exit windows) and refrain from photography/videography at all times below 10,000 feet.

When contacted, sources at Dabolim airport confirmed having received the DGCA circular.

"We have received the DGCA circular and signages are also present all around the airport to inform passengers about the prohibition of clicking videos and photos at the airport as it is a defence airport," said the source.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट शुरू होने से पहले बसों की पार्किंग बनानी होगी

ग्रेटर नोएडा। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट से बॉटनिकल गार्डन तक तीन नए रूट पर बसें चलाने में देरी संभव है। संचालन से पहले बसों को खड़ा करने के लिए ऑल इंडिया टूरिस्ट बस पार्क यानी बस अड्डा विकसित करना होगा।

बस अड्डा विकसित करने के लिए जिलाधिकारी मनीष कुमार वर्मा की अध्यक्षता में नौ सदस्यीय समिति का गठन किया गया है। जिलाधिकारी जल्द ही बैठक कर बस अड्डे के लिए जगह चिह्नित करेंगे। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य सड़क परिवहन निगम (यूपीएसआरटीसी) ने पिछले महीने नोएडा एयरपोर्ट से बॉटनिकल गार्डन तक तीन नए बस रूट निर्धारित किए थे। इन्हें उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने मंजूरी भी दे थी। इनमें सबसे प्रमुख एयरपोर्ट से ग्रेनो के परी चौक को जोड़ने वाला रूट है। इस 42 किमी लंबे बस रूट का लाभ विशेष तौर पर क्षेत्र के स्थानीय लोगों के साथ एयरपोर्ट जाने वाले यात्री को मिलेगा, उन्हें ग्रेनो पहुंचने में आसानी होगी।

Weather plays spoilsport: Over 400 flights delayed, 49 diverted

Jasjeev Gandhiok

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NEW DELHI: Gusty winds of speeds over 80km/hr ripped through Delhi on the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday, bringing with them severe thunderstorms and heavy rainfall—all of which created unfavourable conditions for flight operations, delaying over 400 flights through the day and leading to tens of diversions, officials aware of the developments said.

Airport officials said the diversions were necessitated from 11.30pm on Saturday, and continued until around 4am on Sunday. The average delay time of each flight was 27 minutes, according to flight tracking website FlightRadar24.

"A total of 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted during this period," an airport official said, adding that delays continued beyond 4am, into the second half of the day as well, due to a cascading effect.

The flights were impacted due to wind shear—strong winds blowing in the opposing direction and rain, officials said. Both take-offs and landings are impacted in such a scenario. Lightning too poses a risk for flights.

Fabric tear causes scare

On the same day, visuals emerged on social media of an external tensile fabric, used to cover the area outside the arrivals hall at Terminal-1, tearing apart due to water accumulating on top of it. The water is then seen gushing onto the road and towards the arrivals hall.

Airport operator Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), however, described it as the "design's natural response to prevent excessive water retention."

A DIAL spokesperson said, "Delhi experienced an intense thunderstorm accompanied by

heavy rainfall during the intervening night of May 24th, 2025. The city recorded over 80mm of rain with wind speeds touching 70–80 km/hr within a short span of 30 to 45 minutes around 2am. This sudden and concentrated downpour led to temporary water accumulation in and around IGI Airport, briefly impacting operations."

"As a part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 Arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal. There was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal," the spokesperson added, stating swift action was taken by ground teams to restore normal conditions.

Airports advise caution

India Meteorological Department (IMD) data showed the airport recorded a maximum wind speed of 72 km/hr at around 2am and received 68.5mm of rainfall until 8.30am.

Roads leading up to the airport were waterlogged until the afternoon, with airlines issuing advisories to customers to check their flight time and keep sufficient buffer time.

"Last night's adverse weather in Delhi, continues to affect operations due to airside congestion. While conditions have improved, delays in departures, arrivals and ground handling may persist. We recommend planning your travel with sufficient buffer time as routes to the airport may be affected by waterlogging," said IndiGo in a statement on X.

Air India issued a similar advisory. "Thunderstorms and gusty winds last night impacted flight operations across parts of northern India. Consequently, some flights to and from our



Grabs from a video that show water filling up the tensile fabric (left) and causing a tear (right) due to continuous accumulation, at Delhi airport Terminal-1 on Sunday.

Delhi hub had to be diverted. This may result in a cascading effect on our flight schedules throughout the day. While we are making every effort to minimise the disruption, we request our guests to check the status of their flights before heading to the airport," it said.

Passengers, meanwhile, took to social media to provide updates on their affected plans.

Bhramjeet Singh, who took a VietJet flight from Hanoi to Delhi, was among those whose flights were diverted. He said initially, the plane took off late, with the flight then diverted due to bad weather in Delhi. "Flight diverted to Jaipur. Landed in Jaipur at 4am IST. Stuck in plane and airport till 8:30AM IST," he posted on X.



Passengers check their flight status, as over 400 were delayed and around 50 re-routed. There was an average delay of 27 minutes per flight on Sunday.

FLIERSPEAK



Flight diverted to Jaipur. Landed in Jaipur at 4am IST. Stuck in plane and airport till 8.30AM IST.

BHRAMJEET SINGH, who took a VietJet flight from Hanoi to Delhi, posted on X



A 10.50PM flight (yesterday) whilst about to land was diverted to lucknow due to bad weather in Delhi...

ZORAWAR KALRA, who was flying to Delhi on an Air India flight on Sunday morning, on X



Last night's adverse weather in Delhi, continues to affect operations due to airside congestion. While conditions have improved... We recommend planning your travel with buffer.

INDIGO, in an advisory posted online



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

25 MAY 2025

Number of flights to Srinagar airport cut by half

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SRINAGAR : As the number of tourists coming to the Valley dropped drastically after the Pahalgam terrorist attack and the subsequent anti-terror Operation Sindoor by India, the number of flights to and from the Srinagar airport has been cut to half even as the airfares have seen a dip.

According to the officials, the airport, which earlier operated 90 to 100 flights every day, now runs almost 50. On Thursday, 44 flights flew to and out of the Srinagar international airport.

"A total of 44 flights operated at the airport on Thursday with the arrival of 3,197 passengers

and departure of 3,487," said an airport official.

Tour and travel operators say the airfares have dropped by two-third as compared to the same period last year or before the April 22 attack at Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam.

At least 26 people, 25 tourists and a local, were killed in the terror strike.

"Due to the low tourist foot-fall, the airfares have considerably dropped. The Delhi-Srinagar and Mumbai-Srinagar fares have fallen to around ₹4,000 to ₹5,500. They otherwise used to range between ₹12,000 and ₹14,000," said Farooq Ahmad, a tour and travel operator.

He said that before the April 22 attack, he travelled from Ban-



Tour and travel operators say the airfares have dropped by two-third.

HT PHOTO

galore to Srinagar. "The fare in March was ₹18,000 for a one-way trip from Bangalore to Srinagar. Now, it is hardly ₹8,000," he said. Tourism stakeholders say there were bulk cancellations, almost 80% of bookings, after the Pahalgam attack, which

increased to 95% after the "war like" situation.

There was some inflow of tourists for the past few days after airfares and hotel tariffs went down. Hoteliers have cut rates by almost 30%.

"Hotels in Kashmir are offering huge discounts and local tour operators attracting tourists with heavy discounts which is fetching some results," said Travel Agents Association of Kashmir secretary general Sajad Ahmad Kralyari.

The Valley saw an exodus of tourists immediately after the terror attack in south Kashmir's Pahalgam. On May 7, India launched precise missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and PoK in retaliation to the

Pahalgam attack. Cross-border hostilities then claimed more than 25 lives before a ceasefire was announced on May 10.

The "Chalo Kashmir" campaign by Kolkata travel agencies and some other states has given a glimmer of hope for the tourism players in the Himalayan region, although most believe it will take time for the revival of the sector.

Kashmir has witnessed record tourist arrivals for the past three years. According to the tourism department, 34.98 lakh tourists visited the Himalayan valley in 2024, up from 31.55 lakh in 2023 and 26.73 lakh in 2022.

This year, the number had reached 6 lakh before the Pahalgam attack.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

Hundreds of flights hit at airport, canopy fabric damaged at T1

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MAY 25

HEAVY RAIN disrupted air travel once again at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) on Sunday as hundreds of flights were delayed. Overnight storms also caused damage to a section of the canopy fabric of the external tensile at the Terminal 1 (T1) arrival forecourt.

A total of 459 departing flights were delayed, with an average delay of 41 minutes, according to flight tracking website Flightradar24, as of 6.40 pm on Sunday.

In a post on X, Delhi airport

on its official handle attributed the delays to the weather.

On the damage caused at Terminal 1, a Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) spokesperson said, "As a part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 Arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal."

"There was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal," the spokesperson added.

The incident comes a year after the canopy at the T1 forecourt



A section of the external tensile fabric of the arrival forecourt at Terminal 1 saw damage. Express

collapsed due to heavy rain, killing one person and injuring

six others.

The areas around the airport

also witnessed some accumulation of water. "Delhi experienced an intense thunderstorm accompanied by heavy rainfall. This sudden and concentrated downpour led to temporary water accumulation in and around IGIA, briefly impacting operations," the spokesperson said.

"Swift action was taken by the ground teams to restore normal conditions, ensuring safety and continuity of operations with minimal disruption," he said.

Meanwhile, flyers were inconvenienced throughout the day due to disruptions in air travel. In anticipation of the storm, airport authorities had issued a weather alert at 10.30 pm

Saturday, warning travellers of potential disruptions and advising them to consider alternative modes of transport, including the Delhi Metro, to avoid traffic congestion caused by waterlogging.

Airlines also posted alerts. Between 11.30 pm and 4 am, at least 49 flights, including 17 international carriers, were diverted from IGIA, as per officials.

"Our on-ground teams are diligently working with all stakeholders to ensure a seamless and efficient passenger experience," Delhi airport had said in a post on X on Sunday morning.

On May 21, flights were affected due to thunderstorms and rain in the Capital.



Corporate Communications Directorate

LOKSATYA

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

परिचालन प्रभावित मौसम की वजह से विमान संचालन में अस्थायी बाधाएं हुईं: इंडिगो

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर 49 उड़ानों का रूट बदला

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्य

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में रातभर जारी भारी बारिश और तेज आंधी के कारण इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय (आईजीआई) हवाई अड्डे पर परिचालन प्रभावित हुआ, जिससे 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों सहित कुल 49 विमानों के मार्ग में परिवर्तन करना पड़ा। भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (आईएमडी) ने बताया कि दिल्ली के प्रमुख मौसम केंद्र ने देर रात

11 बजकर 30 मिनट से सुबह पांच बजकर 30 मिनट के बीच छह घंटे में 81.2 मिलीमीटर बारिश दर्ज की और इस दौरान 82 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से हवाएं चलीं। इस संबंध में एक सूत्र ने बताया कि खराब मौसम के कारण शनिवार रात साढ़े 11 बजे से रविवार तड़के चार बजे के बीच 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों सहित 49 विमानों का मार्ग परिवर्तित किया गया। विमानन कंपनी 'इंडिगो' ने तड़के तीन

बजकर 59 मिनट पर 'एक्स' पर एक पोस्ट में कहा कि दिल्ली में प्रतिकूल मौसम की वजह से विमान संचालन में अस्थायी बाधाएं पैदा हुई हैं। इसने कहा कि मौसम धीरे-धीरे सामान्य हो रहा है लेकिन हवाई क्षेत्र में कुछ अवरोध बना हुआ है। इंडिगो ने कहा कि हम आपको आश्वस्त करते हैं कि परिस्थितियां अनुकूल होने के साथ ही उड़ानों की आवाजाही फिर से शुरू की जाएगी। इसने सुबह पांच बजकर 54

मिनट पर एक अन्य पोस्ट में बताया कि दिल्ली में आसमान साफ होने के साथ ही उड़ानों का संचालन सामान्य हो गया है। विमानों के आवागमन पर नजर रखने वाली वेबसाइट 'फ्लाइटरेडार24डॉटकॉम' पर उपलब्ध जानकारी के अनुसार, हवाई अड्डे पर कई उड़ानों के संचालन में विलंब हुआ और कुछ उड़ानें रद्द कर दी गईं तथा प्रस्थान में औसतन 30 मिनट से अधिक की देरी हुई।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

Canopy at Delhi airport's T1 partially collapses amid rains

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The canopy at the arrival forecourt of the Delhi airport's Terminal 1 partially collapsed on Sunday morning due to heavy rains and strong winds, according to a source.

The revamped Terminal 1 (T1) was recently opened for flight operations at the national Capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), which is also the country's largest and busiest airport.

In a statement, airport operator DIAL said that as a part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal.

The Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) also said there was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal.

The statement did not

The revamped Terminal 1 (T1) was recently opened for flight operations at the national Capital's IGIA, which is also the country's largest and busiest airport

directly mention about the canopy collapse.

"Swift action was taken by the ground teams to restore normal conditions, ensuring safety and continuity of operations with minimal disruption," it said.

The source said the canopy at the arrival forecourt of T1 partially collapsed and no one was injured.

As many as 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted at the airport between 11:30 pm on Saturday and 4 am on Sunday,

a source said earlier in the day. In the statement, DIAL said the national capital experienced an intense thunderstorm accompanied by heavy rainfall during the intervening night of May 24.

The city recorded over 80 mm of rain with wind speeds touching 70-80 km/h within a short span of 30 to 45 minutes around 2 am. The sudden and concentrated downpour led to temporary water accumulation in and around the airport briefly impacting operations, it said.

IGIA handles around 1,300 flight movements daily.

In June last year, a canopy at the old departure forecourt of T1 partially collapsed amid heavy rains resulting in the death of a person and causing injuries to at least six people.

Meanwhile, in a post on X at 7 pm, DIAL said that due to inclement weather conditions and changing wind patterns, there might be an impact on flight operations at the airport.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

Newly built membrane shade at T1 damaged, flight ops hit

ASHISH SRIVASTAVA @NewDelhi

THE strong storm along with heavy downpour on Saturday night severely impacted flight operations at the Delhi Airport. As many as 49 flights were diverted between 11.30 pm (Saturday) and 4 am (Sunday) due to adverse weather conditions, while over two hundred cancellations were reported, the airport authorities said.

The diverted aircraft included 17 international flights. The airport and airlines issued multiple advisories where they urged passengers to keep checking their flight's status and stay in touch with their respective airlines for the latest updates.

Heavy rain also damaged the newly designed membrane shade at the airport's Terminal 1, which was installed after a fatal incident last year.

A video of the incident went



viral on social media which showed people standing near a covered area where several cars were parked. As the rain intensified, the membrane shade partially collapsed, giving way and allowing water to pour down onto the vehicles and flow toward those nearby, prompting them to move away.

The Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), the airport's operator, acknowledged that sudden downpour led to temporary waterlogging in and

around the airport and damage to the canopy.

"Delhi experienced an intense thunderstorm accompanied by heavy rainfall during the intervening night of May 24, 2025. The city recorded over 80mm of rain with wind speeds touching 70-80 km/h within a short span of 30 to 45 minutes around 2:00 am. This sudden and concentrated downpour led to temporary water accumulation in and around IGI Airport, briefly impacting operations. As a part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 Arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal. There was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal," the statement read.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

49 flights diverted at Delhi IGI airport

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ New Delhi

As many as 49 flights, including 17 international ones, were diverted at the country's largest IGI airport here due to heavy rain and thunderstorms that battered the National Capital overnight.

The India Meteorological Department said the city's primary weather station recorded winds gusting

up to 82 kmph and 81.2 mm of rain in six hours —between Saturday 11.30 pm and 5.30 am on Sunday. A source said that 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted between 11:30 pm on Saturday and 4 am on Sunday due to bad weather. In a post on X at 3:59 am, IndiGo said adverse weather conditions in Delhi led to temporary disruptions in flight operations.

"While the weather is gradually eas-

ing, some airside congestion remains. We assure you that flight movements are steadily resuming as conditions permit," the airline said.

At 5:54 am it said in an X post that flight operations are back to normal with clearer skies over Delhi.

Flight tracking website *Flightradar24.Com* showed that around 180 flights have been delayed and some cancelled at the airport.

आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की तैयारियों पर फिर उठा सवाल, 49 से अधिक विमान हुए डायवर्ट

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): देश की राजधानी स्थित इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (आईजीआई) पर रविवार तड़के एक बार फिर मौसम की मार ने बड़ा सवाल खड़ा कर दिया। टर्मिनल-1 के आगमन फोरकोर्ट क्षेत्र में भारी बारिश के चलते बाहरी टेन्साइल फैब्रिक का हिस्सा ढह गया। घटना के वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल हो रहे हैं, जिसमें पानी के तेज बहाव के बीच यात्रियों को झर-उधर भागते देखा जा सकता है। इस घटना ने न केवल हवाई अड्डे की निर्माण गुणवत्ता और डिजाइन पर सवाल खड़े किए हैं, बल्कि यह भी उजागर किया है कि एक साल पहले हुई भयावह दुर्घटना से कोई सबक नहीं लिया गया। यह पहली बार नहीं है जब आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-1 क्षेत्र में बारिश के दौरान ढांचा गिरा हो। ठीक एक वर्ष पूर्व, इसी टर्मिनल के फोरकोर्ट क्षेत्र में बारिश के चलते छत का हिस्सा गिर गया था, जिसमें एक व्यक्ति की मौत हो गई थी और छह अन्य घायल हो गए थे। तब डायल (डायल) दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड ने जांच और सुधार का आश्वासन दिया था, मगर रविवार की घटना दर्शाती है कि सुधायत्क कार्रवाई या तो की ही नहीं गई या फिर अपर्याप्त रही।

टर्मिनल-1 पर भारी बारिश में ढांचा ढहा, एक साल पहले की त्रासदी को नहीं भूले लोग और फिर हो गया हादसा, बारिश से करीब 100 विमानों के उड़ान पर भी पड़ा असर



भारी बारिश में बाहरी टेन्साइल फैब्रिक का गिरा हिस्सा।

डायल ने दिया 'डिजाइन प्रतिक्रिया' का हवाला

रविवार की घटना पर डायल की ओर से जारी बयान में कहा गया, टर्मिनल-1 के आगमन क्षेत्र में लगे बाहरी टेन्साइल फैब्रिक का हिस्सा भारी बारिश के दबाव में स्वाभाविक रूप से समर्थोजित हुआ, जिससे जल निकासी सुगम हो सके। यह डिजाइन की स्वाभाविक प्रतिक्रिया थी और किसी भी संरचनात्मक क्षति का खतरा नहीं था।

पहले से थी चेतावनी, फिर भी ढांचा क्यों टूटा?

भारतीय मौसम विभाग के अनुसार दिल्ली में रविवार तड़के मजह 30 से 45 मिनट के भीतर 80 मिमी से अधिक बारिश रिकॉर्ड की गई, जबकि हवा की रफ्तार 70-80 किमी-घंटा तक पहुंच गई। यह मौसम अपेक्षित था और पूर्व चेतावनी भी जारी की गई थी। ऐसे में सवाल और तीव्र हो जाता है कि क्या एयरपोर्ट जैसी संवेदनशील और महत्वपूर्ण संरचना मौसम की तैयारी के बिना संचालित हो रही है?

उड़ानों पर व्यापक असर यात्री हुए परेशान

तेज बारिश और ढांचे के टूटने के कारण आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर विमानों के संचालन पर भी व्यापक असर पड़ा। 100 से अधिक उड़ानें प्रभावित हुईं और करीब 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों सहित 49 फ्लाइट्स को अन्य हवाई अड्डों की ओर डायवर्ट करना पड़ा। यात्रियों को देर तक टर्मिनल में फंसे रहना पड़ा और एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन की ओर से देर रात तक स्थिति स्पष्ट नहीं की गई।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

25 MAY 2025

Kolkata airport AEMC meet held on safety measures

A meeting was conducted at Kolkata Airport under the chairmanship of Nandhini Chakraborty, Principal Secretary, Home Department, government of West Bengal, to discuss measures taken to effectively deal with bird activities and other concerns related to safe aircraft operations at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport, Kolkata.

The meeting was attended by Dr PR Beuria, Airport Director, NSCBI Airport along with



senior IAS officers from West Bengal, Senior officials of AAI, Municipalities, other departments and representatives from airlines.

Key discussions centered on the urgent need for effectively covered garbage pits and comprehensive garbage cleaning in the airport's vicinity to mitigate bird activity, a significant hazard to aircraft. Statistics presented highlighted a concerning number of bird strikes in the preceding months, underscoring the critical importance of robust waste management practices by surrounding municipalities to deter birds from the aerodrome.

Airport police bust SIM smuggling ring

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Indira Gandhi International Airport Police busted a SIM smuggling ring allegedly involved in aiding an online gaming network. Five individuals from Madhya Pradesh were arrested in connection with the case.

According to police, the accused individuals were involved in the illegal procurement and transportation of activated Indian SIM cards to a foreign country. A total of 398 active SIM cards, issued in the names of different individuals,

were seized from the accused.

“The case began when CISF officers at Terminal 3 of Delhi airport intercepted Sunil Rawat, an Indian national scheduled to travel to Dubai, on Feb 15. Rawat was found carrying the activated SIM cards, which were registered under the names of different individuals,” DCP (IGI Airport) Usha Rangnani said.

Investigation revealed that the SIM cards were fraudulently obtained from various individuals in Ujjain and Dewas districts of Madhya Pradesh. The accused, Ankit Ku-

mawat, allegedly misled the individuals into believing that the SIMs were part of a promotional offer with free data and call services, police said.

“Further investigation led to the arrest of Ashwin Kumar, who procured the SIM cards from Kumawat and was allegedly supplying them to Faisal, a Dubai-based individual, for use in online gaming apps. Two other accused, Lokendra Sendhav and Dwarka Prasad, were also apprehended for their involvement in the case,” DCP Rangnani added.

The cops are currently investigating the case and working to dismantle the international fraud and cheating syndicate linked to it. Efforts are being made to apprehend Faisal and other suspects involved in the case.

The arrested individuals include Ankit Kumawat (30), Ashwin Kumar (37), Manish Kumar (35), Lokendra Sendhav (34) and Dwarka Prasad (36).

Further investigation is underway with police working to uncover the full extent of the SIM smuggling ring's operations.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

Flights diverted, tensile canopy gives way at Delhi airport

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: An intense thunderstorm, accompanied by heavy rain and gusty winds of up to 82 km/hr, disrupted flight operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport early Sunday. The extreme weather event, which swept across large parts of Delhi-NCR late Saturday night, led to the diversion of 49 flights to nearby airports and delayed more than 400 flights through the day.

Compounding the situation, roads leading to the airport were waterlogged well into the afternoon, prompting airlines to issue advisories to passengers. Videos widely shared on social media — including by former Delhi CM Atishi

— showed a section of the external tensile fabric canopy at Terminal 1 tearing apart due to water accumulation. Water was seen gushing off the canopy toward the Arrival hall and road below.

The airport operator, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), called the event a “natural design response”. A DIAL spokesperson said: “Delhi experienced an intense thunderstorm with over 80 mm of rainfall and winds touching 70–80 km/hr within a span of 30 to 45 minutes around 2 am. This sudden downpour caused temporary water accumulation in and around the airport, briefly impacting operations.”

Addressing the viral video of the canopy, the spokesperson ad-



Source: X

TORN APART BY FORCE

ded, “As part of the design’s natural response to extreme conditions, a section of the tensile fabric at Terminal 1 adjusted under pressure to help disperse water. There was no structural damage or impact on other areas. Swift action was taken by ground teams to restore normal conditions.”

Flight diversions occurred between 11.30pm and 4am, according to airport officials. “A total of 49 flights, including 17 international services, were diverted during that period,” said one official. Delays, however, continued well into Sunday afternoon due to a ripple effect on operations.

Data from FlightRadar24 showed over 400 delayed flights, with an average delay time of 27 minu-

tes. As road access to the airport remained affected, airlines began advising passengers to allow additional travel time and check flight statuses before departure.

Air India issued a statement, saying: “Thunderstorms and gusty winds last night impacted flight operations across northern India. Several flights to and from our Delhi hub were diverted, which may result in a cascading effect on our schedules. We urge passengers to check their flight status before heading to the airport.”

IndiGo also posted on X: “Last night’s adverse weather continues to affect operations due to airside congestion. While conditions have improved, delays in departures, arrivals, and ground handling may persist.”

IndiGo sees significant cargo opportunity on India-Europe routes

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

IndiGo sees significant opportunity for cargo movement between India and Europe as it launches its maiden service from Mumbai to Amsterdam and Manchester from July.

The airline will operate a wet leased Boeing 787 on the routes which can carry up to 18-20 tonnes of cargo in each

direction.

"The opportunity for cargo is significant for us. It nicely coincides with the 'Make in India' campaign which is becoming more and more prominent in terms of India becoming the global production hub," IndiGo's chief executive officer Pieter Elbers said in a post fourth quarter result conference call.

Indian airports handled over 3.7 million tonnes of cargo in FY25, a growth of 10.5 per cent over the previous year. While domestic freight traffic grew 5.6 per cent, international freight handled by airports rose 13.7 per cent in the period.

Yet, the share of Indian carriers in overall international freight traffic from/to India is in single digits and Elbers believes the introduction of new European service will help in growing overall share of Indian carriers. "That will be our focus," he said.

GROWTH FACTORS

Growth in fleet, improved utilisation of freighters and international tie-ups have helped IndiGo grow its cargo business. The airline added 67 aircraft to its fleet (including wet leased planes) taking the total count to 434 as of March. Partnerships with Air France-KLM and FedEx have also helped grow traffic.

The tie up with Air France-KLM would be particularly



Pieter Elbers, IndiGo's
Chief Executive Officer

useful as IndiGo starts its flights to Amsterdam, which is the primary hub of KLM.

DELHI FIRST CHOICE

While Delhi was the first choice for launch of the European flights as it offers more onward connections, the airline opted for Mumbai after closure of Pakistan airspace for Indian carriers.

Elbers conceded that the airline's connecting network in Mumbai is not as strong as compared to Delhi but there are some good connections to South India (from Mumbai) with traffic flows from Europe. "We made the evaluation and figured that it was a good way to start our operations," he said.

IndiGo has leased one Boeing 787 aircraft from Norse Atlantic and expects to receive another five in the second half of FY26. Elbers said the Boeing 787 aircraft would allow the airline to operate flights to Europe from any of its Indian hub and that there is still time to finalise operation plans for the remaining five aircraft.

Asked about brand awareness in Europe, Elbers said IndiGo gets customers from its code share partners Air France-KLM, British Airways and Virgin Atlantic on its domestic flights. "I am sure our competitive fares from Amsterdam and Manchester will stimulate demand from Europe into India and even beyond," he added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

At half-time, AI on course to hit five-year goal

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
Mumbai, May 25

HALFWAY THROUGH THE five-year transformation plan, Air India is on course to achieve its market share target of 30% in the domestic space on the back of an expanding fleet that has grown by 40% in 30 months.

Announced in September 2022, the Vihaan.AI plan also aims to increase the former flag carrier's market share in the international market, and put the company on the path to sustained growth, profitability and market leadership.

From 24% recorded in September 2022 (start of plan), Air India group's (including Air India Express) domestic market share increased to 26.5% by the end of March, 2025, according to data supplied by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

IndiGo, the country's largest carrier, however, improved its domestic share

FLYING HIGH



significantly to 64.3% in March 2025 from 58% recorded in September 2022. Akasa Air, which was launched in August 2022, managed to grab nearly 5% by the end of FY25.

Continued on Page 5

Air India on course to achieve Vihaan.AI goals

WHILE SPICEJET WAS constrained on capacity, the grounding and subsequent exit of embattled carrier Go First, saw their market share get redistributed to IndiGo, Air India and Akasa Air.

The merger of AirAsia India and Air India Express and the merger between Vistara and Air India resulted in the creation of the Air India group, which presently has a fleet of nearly 300 aircraft.

A total of 570 aircraft have been ordered by the airline since the start of Vihaan.AI, including 80 widebody planes from Boeing and Airbus. This has helped the airline induct one aircraft every six days.

"Air India has added close to 2,500 weekly flights to its route network (includes domestic and international flights), growing the number of weekly flights by over 95% since September 2022," said an Air India spokesperson.

The addition of 500 weekly flights to its international network since the launch of Vihaan.AI and adding several new destinations has led to near doubling of Air India market share to 23% by the end of December, 2024 from 12% recorded in December 2022, according to the DGCA data.

While the airline awaits new aircraft deliveries, its entire fleet of 67 legacy single-aisle and

twin-aisle aircraft is undergoing a \$400 million retrofit programme. Its old aircraft will get new seats in a three-class cabin configuration, carpets, curtains, lavatories, along with a fresh coat of paint, new livery - all in the new Air India branding.

"Since September 2022, Air India has added 12 new destinations that include London Gatwick, Amsterdam, Milan, Copenhagen, Vienna, Zurich, Kuala Lumpur, Phuket, Ho Chi Minh City, Denpasar-Bali, Malé (Maldives), and Mauritius," added the spokesperson.

At the group level, the international route network has been optimised to better match routes with the most appropri-

ate airline business model, focusing the full-service airline (Air India) on high connectivity and high-demand short to ultra long-haul routes out of its three major hubs in India - Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

The low-cost airline (Air India Express) focuses on more price-sensitive short-haul routes connecting other parts of India to destinations across the South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Gulf regions.

During FY24, Air India's consolidated losses reduced by over 50% year-on-year to ₹4,444 crore, and consolidated operating revenues rose by 25% to ₹38,812 crore, the highest-ever level.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

आंधी और बारिश से उड़ानें प्रभावित, परेशान रहे यात्री



दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-1 पर तेज हवाओं की वजह से कैनोपी की छत का एक हिस्सा फट गया। इसका वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल हो रहा है। • वीडियो से

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। राजधानी में शनिवार देर रात आंधी-बारिश का बड़ा असर विमान सेवा पर भी देखने को मिला। रात 11:30 बजे से सुबह 4 बजे तक दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट आने वाले 49 विमानों को डायवर्ट करना पड़ा। वहीं, रविवार को लगभग आधा

पड़ा। वहीं, रविवार को लगभग आधा दर्जन उड़ानें रद्द रहीं। साथ ही, 180 विमानों ने देरी से उड़ान भरी। शाम के बाद स्थिति में कुछ सुधार दिखा।

तेज रफ्तार से चल रही हवा के कारण विमानों को रनवे पर उतारने में ख़ासी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। इस दौरान उड़ानों को जयपुर, अमृतसर, अहमदाबाद, लखनऊ आदि एयरपोर्ट पर डायवर्ट करना पड़ा। इनमें 17 अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमान भी शामिल थे। मौसम में सुधार के बाद उन विमानों को वापस दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर लाया गया। वहीं, बारिश के बीच विमानों की काफी कतार (बीचिंग) लग चुकी थी। इस वजह से रविवार को विमानों की उड़ान

तेज हवाओं से टी-1 पर फटा कैनोपी का हिस्सा

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-1 पर तेज हवाओं की वजह से कैनोपी की छत का एक हिस्सा फट गया। हालांकि, इसके चलते किसी प्रकार के नुकसान की जानकारी सामने नहीं आई है।

की जानकारी सामने नहीं आई है। लेकिन इसका वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल हुआ है। इस वीडियो में कैनोपी की मरम्मत करते हुए कर्मचारी दिखाई दे रहे हैं। फिलहाल इसे लेकर एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन की तरफ से कोई बयान नहीं दिया गया है।

बड़ी संख्या में प्रभावित रहीं। टर्मिनल-1 और टर्मिनल-3 पर यात्रियों को कई घंटे तक अपनी उड़ान का इंतज़ार करना पड़ा। रविवार सुबह इंडिगो एयरलाइंस की तरफ से कहा गया कि रात में खराब मौसम का असर सुबह भी विमान सेवाओं पर पड़ रहा है। उन्होंने यात्रियों से धैर्य बनाए रखने की अपील की।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

DGCA working on new norms for pilots flying in turbulent conditions

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NEW DELHI: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is working on guidelines for pilots to handle severe turbulence episodes after a Delhi-Srinagar flight last Wednesday flew into a hailstorm, with passengers describing it as a “near death” experience.

While the aviation regulator is conducting a probe into the incident, officials familiar with the matter said that the goal is to ensure no such episodes occur in the future.

“The investigation into the turbulence incident is underway. However, the goal is to ensure there is no recurrence of such a severe turbulence episode, which could prove fatal,” an official familiar with the matter said requesting anonymity.

A major part of the investigation has been completed, a second official said. “We are working on strengthening the system and may issue specific guidelines for handling similar situations. However, this will require broader consultation with stakeholders, which will take some time,” the official said.

DGCA off rostered the two pilots operating the flight that on Wednesday evening flew through a severe hailstorm, with 227 people on board.

The incident unfolded on IndiGo flight 6E-2142, which

THE DEVELOPMENT COMES DAYS AFTER A DELHI-SRINAGAR FLIGHT LAST WEEK EXPERIENCED A TURBULENT EPISODE WHEN IT FLEW THROUGH A HAILSTORM

departed Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport at approximately 4:55pm and managed to land in Srinagar at 6:25pm, according to Flightradar24 tracking data.

The crisis began when the aircraft “entered hailstorm and severe turbulence near Pathankot” whilst “cruising at FL360” (36,000 feet), according to the regulator’s statement.

At the height of the crisis, “the aircraft rate of descent reached 8500 fpm,” the DGCA stated. “Crew flew the aircraft manually till they exit the hailstorm.”

While no passengers were injured in the incident, DGCA is now working to ensure no recurrence of the incident.

“The aim is to ensure pilots have a clear standard operating procedure when facing unexpected weather conditions in the future, but this requires thorough analysis before disseminating further information,” the second official said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

स्पाइसजेट एमएक्स हिप हॉप इंडिया-2 के साथ साझेदारी

मुंबई। हिपहॉप का जुनून अब नई ऊंचाइयों पर पहुंच गया है क्योंकि अमेज़न एमएक्स प्लेयर की डांस रिप्लिटी सीरीज रियलमी हिप हॉप इंडिया सीजन 2 इस शैली को एक नए मुकाम पर ले जा रही है और वो भी स्पाइसजेट के साथ एक सांस्कृतिक नवाचारी और मनेजर साझेदारी के जरिए। इस क्रिएटिव अभियान में सामान्य इनफ्लाइट सुरक्षा निर्देश को एक धमाकेदार हिप हॉप परफॉर्मेंस में बदल दिया गया है जिसका नेतृत्व खुद मल्लिका अरोड़ा कर रही हैं। अमेज़न एमएक्स प्लेयर की निदेशक और बिजनेस हेड अरुणा दर्यानाबी ने कहा कि अमेज़न एमएक्स प्लेयर में हम हमेशा नवाचार की तलाश में रहते हैं और अपनी कलानियों को स्क्रीन से घरे वास्तविक दुनिया में रोमांचक और अर्थपूर्ण तरीकों से ले जाने का प्रयास करते हैं। स्पाइसजेट के साथ हमारी साझेदारी इस दृष्टिकोण का प्रमाण है। जिस तरह रियलमी हिप हॉप इंडिया सीजन 2 डांस रिप्लिटी जॉनर को नए स्तर में पेश करता है यह सहयोग भी एक रोजमर्रा की एयरलाइन दिनचर्या को एक बोल्ड, अविस्मरणीय हिप हॉप अनुभव में बदल देता है। यह हमारे उस संकल्प का प्रतिबिंब है कि हम ऐसा कंटेंट बनाएँ जो दर्शकों को पूरी तरह से जोड़ने वाला मनोरंजक और सांस्कृतिक रूप से प्रभावशाली हो।

City's wettest May on record; 4th big storm wreaks havoc, 400 flights hit

New Delhi: Intense thunderstorms and downpours, the fourth big weather disturbance this month, lashed Delhi-NCR early Sunday, dumping over 80mm of rain in less than 6 hours. The storm caused widespread damage, flood-

► **Gzb ASP office roof collapses, cop dies, P 4**

ding 170 areas and key stretches, uprooting tens of trees and damaging property, reports **Kushagra Dixit**.

170 STRETCHES WATERLOGGED

Highest Rainfall In May
(Safdarjung, since 1901, mm)



2025 (6.3x of normal) 186.4

2008 165

► **81.4mm of rain** in 6 hrs till 5.30am on Sunday, with winds up to **82kmph**

► **49 flights diverted**, roads leading to IGAI flooded

► Expect **more rain** in next few days, says IMD

This month has already become the wettest May since 1901. Safdarjung has logged 186.4mm of rain, close to what

the city normally receives in the monsoon month of July.

► **More such events? P 3**

IMD warns of more such weather events this week

► **Continued from P1**

Known waterlogging hotspots such as Minto Bridge, Azadpur, ITO, near Delhi Airport Terminal 1 and Zakhira all went underwater, with commuters getting stranded in underpasses and roads leading to the Delhi airport. Multiple vehicles and buses were stuck in at least two waterlogged underpasses in Delhi, including Minto Bridge. Power supply was interrupted as well, while the NDMC zone alone received 34 complaints related to tree falling.

On Sunday, wind speeds peaked at 82 km/h, leading to the diversion of over 49 flights and delays for more than 400 others at IGI Airport. This was the fourth such storm this month. Safdarjung base station recorded 81.4mm of rain till 5.30am, all of which fell within a few hours. The

month's total rainfall so far of 186.4mm easily surpassed the previous highest ever for May — 165mm recorded in 2008, as per IMD data.

Most parts of the city recorded heavy rainfall, defined as more than 64.4mm in a 24-hour period. While Safdarjung logged 81.4mm, Rajghat recorded 75.5mm, Pusa 71.5mm, Lodhi Road 69.6mm, Ridge 69.1mm, and Palam 68.5mm. The squall also caused a sharp temperature drop of 10–11°C in the early morning.

IMD has issued several alerts warning of more such weather events later this week, even though no colour-coded alert for the week ahead has been issued. It said recurring rain with thunderstorms and gusty winds up to 50 km/h could be expected in the coming week.

Delhi's maximum temperature on Sunday stood at 31.6 degrees C, nine de-

grees below normal. The minimum was 19.8 degrees C, seven below normal. The maximum is expected to be 34–36 degrees C on Monday, with the minimum hovering around 24–26 degrees.

IMD said that while such thunderstorms are not uncommon during the pre-monsoon season when moisture-laden southeasterly winds interact with drier westerly winds, the intensity of Sunday's event was magnified by three active weather systems — a western disturbance and two cyclonic circulations.

"The western disturbance lies as an upper air cyclonic circulation over north Punjab and adjoining Jammu and Kashmir. There was also an upper air cyclonic circulation over northwest UP and adjoining north Haryana in the lower tropospheric levels, 1.5km above mean sea level. Further, an upper air cyclonic

circulation over west Rajasthan and its neighbouring areas lay in the lower tropospheric levels, and this brought additional moisture," an IMD scientist explained.

The met department reported that wind speeds in Delhi peaked around 2am, touching 82kmph at Safdarjung and 72kmph at Palam. The storm also caused a sharp dip in temperature between 1.15 am and 2.30 am.

May has been marked by a series of sudden and intense dust storms and thunderstorms. In three previous storms this month, at least 12 deaths were reported in Delhi due to house collapses, electrocution and trees, masts and hoardings falling on individuals or vehicles.

Meanwhile, the city's air quality remained moderate, with an AQI on a scale of 0 to 500 of 108 on Sunday against 141, also moderate, a day earlier.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

26 MAY 2025

DGCA opens cockpit door to commerce and arts pass-outs

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New Delhi: Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has proposed allowing Class 12 pass-outs from arts and commerce streams to pursue commercial flying courses and become a pilot. The current system limits it to science students.

The regulator has sent the recommendation to Union civil aviation ministry, which will finalise the amendment. "Once it finalises it, it will send the proposal to the law ministry to notify it. When that happens, the change will come into effect," said a senior official. **TOI** had first reported the planned change on April 18, 2025.

Current rules make physics and maths mandatory in Class 12 to enrol for commercial pilot licence (CPL) training. Once the change is notified, all Class 12 pass-outs — subject to clearing medical fitness and other tests — will be eligible to beco-

TAKE-OFF CLEARED

- > DGCA issued **1,342 commercial pilot licences (CPLs)** in CY 2024
- > CY 2023 saw highest ever CPLs being issued in India at **1,622**
- > CY 2022 | **1,165 CPLs** issued
- > Figure includes CPLs issued by DGCA to both students who trained in India and those who trained abroad & then went in for India licence conversion

me commercial pilots in India.

Since mid-1990s, CPL training has been open only to science and math students. Before that, 10th pass (matric) was the only requirement. Senior captains say no other country has such a criteria. They term it an archaic system that needs to go as the levels of physics and maths required by pilots are imparted in junior classes.