



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

26 APRIL 2026

AAI's electronics engineers body flags concern over proposed privatisation of ATC services

MUMBAI: ATSEPA, an electronic engineers' body at Airports Authority of India (AAI), has raised concerns over the proposed privatisation of air traffic control (ATC) services, saying that shifting control away from the Authority without establishing an autonomous regulatory entity could be perceived as a policy decision that weakens India's national strategic capabilities.

In a letter to Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu on April 23, Air Traffic Safety Electronic Personnel Association (India) General Secretary YP Gautam said the matter warrants urgent reconsideration at the highest policy level.

"The proposal to introduce private participation in Air Traffic Control services, without first operationalising



an independent Air Navigation Services (ANS) structure, is viewed with grave concern," he said.

Stating that the matter is not exploratory, he said the carving out of ANS (ATC + CNS) from AAI has already been "deliberated, accepted in principle, and partially implemented" during the tenure of (late AAI Chairman) Guru Prasad Mohapatra.

Alleging that the rollback of that framework has resulted in

the present structural inconsistency, he said, "Proceeding with privatisation in the absence of an autonomous ANS entity will be perceived as a policy decision that weakens an existing national capability rather than strengthening it".

Creating a system where ANS remains a dependent internal unit while competing with private entities will be seen as institutional disadvantage by design, the association said.

Fragmentation of ATC services in a safety-critical domain raises serious questions of accountability, uniformity, and operational integrity, it added.

The association also warned that "ignoring an already available, trained, and proven ANS workforce in favour of external providers risks avoidable

dilution of sovereign expertise".

Seeking immediate operationalisation of ANS as an independent entity with full functional, financial, and administrative autonomy, prior to going ahead with the privatisation, ATSEPA said the entity should be enabled to provide ATC and CNS services to all airports on a non-discriminatory and competitive basis.

"The role of AAI should be clearly redefined to avoid overlap and conflict of interest. It is necessary to state that any move to proceed otherwise will be viewed as structurally flawed and institutionally detrimental, and is unlikely to find acceptance among the professional community entrusted with maintaining the safety and efficiency of India's airspace "it said. PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

LUCKNOW

26 APRIL 2026

AAI's electronics engineers body raises concern over proposed privatisation of ATC services

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Mumbai

ATSEPA, an electronic engineers' body at Airports Authority of India (AAI), has raised concerns over the proposed privatisation of air traffic control services, saying that shifting control away from the Authority without establishing an autonomous regulatory entity could be perceived as a policy decision that weakens India's national strategic capabilities.

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एयरपोर्ट के प्रवेश द्वार का 16 करोड़ से सुंदरीकरण

जागरण संवाददाता, कानपुर : न्यू कानपुर सिटी, ग्रेटर कानपुर, अटल योजना और एयरोसिटी योजना लाने के साथ ही केडीए शहर को संवारने जा रहा है। चकेरी एयरपोर्ट प्रवेश द्वार, गंगा बैराज से मंधना तक फोरलेन मार्ग और पार्को का सौंदर्यीकरण होगा। इसको लेकर 25 मई को टेंडर निकाले गए हैं। सभी कार्य 18 माह में पूरे करने हैं। इन कार्यों के पूरा होने पर शहर को एक नई पहचान मिलेगी।

- गंगाबैराज से मंधना तक फोरलेन मार्ग 8.93 करोड़ से संवरेगा
- 18.70 करोड़ से केडीए योजना के पार्क किए जाएंगे हरे-भरे

ये विकास कार्य कराएगा केडीए

- न्यू ट्रांसपोर्ट नगर फेस एक व तीन में साढ़े चार एमएलडी सीवरेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट निर्माण व रखरखाव- 25.48 करोड़
- रतनपुर योजना में रामलीला पार्क सुंदरीकरण- 18.99 करोड़
- महावीर नगर विस्तार योजना में रेलवे लाइन व लखनऊ आगरा हाईवे के मध्य पांडुनगर के समानांतर बाउंड्रीवाल व 45 मीटर रोड के किनारे ड्रेन निर्माण- 18.73 करोड़
- चकेरी एयरपोर्ट के प्रवेश द्वारा का सुंदरीकरण- 16.09 करोड़
- गंगा बैराज से मंधना तक फोरलेन मार्ग सुंदरीकरण- 8.93 करोड़
- पार्को का सुंदरीकरण- 8.70 करोड़



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THE HINDU

CHENNAI

26 APRIL 2026

Navi Mumbai Airport drives growth in Raigad belt

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Navi Mumbai International Airport is emerging as a catalyst for a major urban and economic shift, driving the rise of new central business districts (CBDs) across the neighbouring Raigad belt. Located within a 15-20 km radius of the new airport, these planned growth centres are being envisioned as “Mumbai 3.0”, a next-generation urban cluster aimed at fuelling future growth.

The impact is already visible in the real estate sector, with developers accelerating project deliver-



Urban facelift: The airport's phase-wise progress is reshaping the region's urban landscape. PTI

ies and unveiling new residential and mixed-use developments to tap into rising demand. The airport's phase-wise progress is reshaping the region's urban landscape, particularly across the micro-mar-

kets of Taloja, Karjat, Pen and Khopoli of Raigad district. The Maharashtra government's plan to develop a BKC-like business district in the region has further boosted investor sentiment.

Emerging micro-markets are becoming key beneficiaries of this growth wave. Taloja takes the lead, with connectivity to its advantage. Priyanka Jindal Gupta, advisor, Viyaara Realty, said, “With enhanced infrastructure and improved connectivity through metro networks and road expansions, Taloja is quickly transforming into a hotspot for premier residential living in Navi Mumbai.”

The airport's influence is also extending to Karjat, where demand for rentals, second homes, and plotted developments is rising. Ashok Chhajer, CMD, Arihant Superstructures said,

“It is clearly seen that land prices are the first to rise as entrepreneurs are grabbing all the opportunities. On the Thane-Belapur stretch, lands are now being sold at ₹2.5 lakh per square metre.” At intersections and traffic signals, land prices have skyrocketed from ₹2 crore to ₹8 crore per acre, he said adding that in the premium segment, sea-facing apartments at Regency Palms were costing about ₹70,000 per sq.ft.

“Going by emerging trends, the residential segment will see a steep rise after the first wave of commercial and service sector development,” he added.

Sri Lanka seeks investors for loss-making Mattala airport built with loans from China

Meera Srinivasan

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka has called for Expressions of Interest to run its loss-making international airport in Mattala, in the southern Hambantota district, with a Cabinet-appointed committee tasked with negotiating the deal with prospective domestic and foreign investors.

The Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation, on behalf of Airport and Aviation Services, “invites proposals from prospective investors *i.e.* Companies, Corporations, Firms, and Joint Ventures” for investments to “utilise resources” of the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport (MRIA), according to an official statement.

The EOI, which includes airside, aerodrome and landside operations, is open to both domestic and international entities, the statement said.

Indo-Russian deal

India has in the past expressed interest to operate



A view of the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport. The facility is yet to prove commercially viable since its launch in 2013. AFP

The airport has accumulated a net loss of nearly \$130 million, according to the Auditor General

the airport in Mattala, which has made headlines as the ‘world’s emptiest airport’, including through a joint venture with a Russian company. However, the proposals did not take off.

The Mattala airport was developed with a nearly \$200-million Chinese loan by former President Ma-

hinda Rajapaksa, who sought to develop his stronghold, along with other big ticket infrastructure projects such as the Hambantota port, also backed by the Chinese. However, the airport facility is yet to prove commercially viable since its launch in 2013.

It has recorded a cumulative loss amounting to nearly LKR 40 billion (roughly \$130 million), the Auditor General’s report said in 2024.

The airport currently has no scheduled flights but handles charter planes, officials said.



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THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

5 hurt as SWISS flight aborts takeoff at IGIA

Express News Service

New Delhi, April 26

FOUR PASSENGERS and a crew member were injured after a Zurich-bound Swiss International Air Lines flight aborted takeoff at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) on early Sunday due to an issue with one of its engines, the airline said.

An emergency was declared at the airport following the incident on Runway 28/10. The airline has established a taskforce for investigation. The incident involved flight LX147 was operated by an Airbus A330 — it had 228 passengers, and four infants

on board, apart from 13 crew members. As per the airline, an issue with one of the engines was detected shortly after 1 am.

Smoke could be seen, said sources, coming out from one of the front landing wheels of the aircraft. The crew aborted the takeoff, said the airline. It evacuated the aircraft after assessing the situation. "All passengers and crew evacuated the aircraft via the emergency slides. For a small number of individuals who were unable to use the slides, stairs were provided," an airline spokesperson said.

Swiss International Air Lines is known as SWISS.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

BANGALORE

26 APRIL 2026

Passenger booked for misconduct at airport

Mahesh.Buddi
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Hyderabad: A flyer on an IndiGo Hyderabad-Udaipur flight was booked on Friday for photographing female cabin crew in an objectionable manner and misbehaving with a fellow passenger at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in the city. The accused was deboarded and handed over to police.

According to a complaint filed by an IndiGo representative, Omprakash, the incident occurred at about 7.45am on Friday aboard flight 6E-6323 at the domestic terminal of RGIA. The airport outpost police said the accused is one Praveen, a businessman from Tamil Nadu who was seated in 6B.

The complaint stated that the passenger zoomed in on his mobile phone cam-

era to take photographs of female crew members, focusing on their legs, faces and bodies. "The accused was also reported to have used foul and abusive language, and the passenger seated next to him complained about his behaviour," the complaint said.

Despite multiple warnings from the cabin crew, the unruly passenger continued to behave in a manner that made others on board uncomfortable; he was also drunk, the complaint stated. Finally, the crew deboarded the flyer and handed him over to the airport outpost police.

"On the complaint of the airline staff, we registered a case and issued a notice to the accused passenger as per law," K Harika, SI with RGIA outpost police, said.

Drunk flyer films female crew, booked after onboard ruckus

Deboarded For Misbehaving With Flyers

Mahesh.Buddi
@timesofindia.com

Hyderabad: A passenger on an IndiGo Hyderabad-Udaipur flight was booked on Friday for photographing female cabin crew in an objectionable manner and misbehaving with a fellow passenger at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. The accused was deboarded and handed over to the police.

According to a complaint filed by an IndiGo representative, Omprakash, the incident occurred at about 7.45 am on April 24 aboard flight

BEHAVIOUR MOST FOUL

- Incident took place on an IndiGo Hyderabad-Udaipur flight on April 24

- The passenger, identified as Praveen, was apparently under the influence of alcohol

- The passenger allegedly zoomed in his mobile phone camera to take photographs of female crew members, focusing on their legs, faces and bodies

- He also reportedly used foul and abusive language with the person seated next

- Despite multiple warnings from the cabin crew, the passenger continued to behave in an inappropriate manner



6E-6323 at the domestic terminal of RGIA. According to RGI Airport Outpost police, the passenger, identified as Praveen, a businessman from Tamil Nadu, was seated in 6B and was allegedly under the influence of alcohol.

The complaint stated that the passenger zoomed in his mobile phone camera to take photographs of female crew members, focusing on their legs, faces and bodies. "The accused was also reported to have used foul and abusive

language, while the passenger seated next to him complained about his behaviour," the complainant said.

Despite multiple warnings from the cabin crew, the unruly passenger continued to behave in a manner that made others on board uncomfortable. He was also drunk, the complainant told police. The flight crew deboarded the passenger from the flight and handed him over to the RGI Airport outpost police.

Based on the complaint, RGI Airport police registered a case under Section 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the BNS.

"We have registered a case and issued a notice to the accused passenger as per law," RGI Airport SIK Harika said.

Zurich flight aborts take-off at IGI after engine fire; 5 injured

Four Passengers Admitted To Hospital in Ggn

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Four passengers and a crew member on board a SWISS Delhi-Zurich flight on Sunday morning were injured while being evacuated on a runway at IGI airport using emergency slides as the aircraft had to abandon take-off following an engine fire. The passengers were admitted to Medanta Hospital in Gurgaon; the cabin crew member suffered a sprained ankle.

The failure of engine number one and subsequent fire breakout in it happened when the SWISS Airbus A330 was operating as LX 147 with 232 passengers (including four infants) and 13 crew mem-

India tightens grip on foreign airlines

DGCA can now "revoke or suspend" a foreign airline's authorisation to operate to India for lapses like not meeting safety standards. In one of his first orders after taking over as DGCA chief, Vir Vikram Yadav said foreign airlines "shall nominate or appoint a local representative to represent it before DGCA for all its matters". **P 8**

bers. Since it was a big and potentially dangerous incident, India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Board will investigate the case, said senior officials. The aircraft had reached a speed of 104 knots (about 193 kmph) on the take-off roll around 1.08am when the engine failed.

► Runway shut for 3 hrs, P 3

Runway Closed For About 3 Hrs, Plane Removed After Evacuation

ABORTED TAKE-OFF: SWISS To Probe What Led To Engine Problem

► Continued from P1

The pilots abandoned take-off. After coming to a halt, they decided to carry out evacuation on the runway (28/10). Delhi airport said on X that it declared a "full emergency". "All prescribed safety protocols were promptly executed and passengers were safely evacuated. Airport operations remained unaffected," it added.

In a statement, SWISS said: "Shortly after 1 am local time Sunday an issue occurred with one of the engines during the take-off of flight LX147 in Delhi. The crew aborted take-off and, after assessing the situation, decided as a precaution to evacuate the aircraft. SWISS has established a task force." "Four passengers (are) in hospital. Our staff are (with them) and closely supporting them for as long as the situation requires. A cabin crew member sustained a sprained ankle. Other crew members are unharmed," it added.

The runway was closed for operations for about three hours till the aircraft was removed there following evacuation of everyone on board. The DGCA is probing this and has informed its EU counterparts about this incident.

SWISS says it is "determined to fully un-



The engine failure happened when the aircraft reached a speed of about 193 kmph

derstand what led to this incident. This includes, in particular, determining what led to the engine problem. We deeply regret the inconvenience caused. We are aware that such an event can be stressful and traumatic for those affected. Our teams remain in close contact with our passengers and continue to support them even beyond the immediate situation. The safety of our guests and our crew is

AIRLINE SAYS

We are aware that such an event can be stressful and traumatic for those affected. Our teams remain in close contact with our passengers and continue to support them even beyond the immediate situation

always our top priority."

The airline says "all passengers were assisted and accompanied by our teams on site. We have accommodated them in hotels and rebooked them onto alternative flights. We were able to find an individual solution for all guests to continue their journey and remain in contact with them."

Four of the five people were brought to Medanta hospital for emergency assessment and trauma care, with the two later leaving against medical advice, one discharged after initial treatment, and one still under evaluation in the ER, sources said. Sources said final diagnostic findings, including MRI and radiology reports, were still pending, which was why complete injury details had not yet been officially recorded.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

■ Full emergency declared ■ 6 passengers receive med attention Swiss flight aborts take off after engine glitch

New Delhi, April 26: A Zurich-bound Swiss International Airline plane carrying 245 people aborted takeoff at the Delhi airport early morning on Sunday due to an engine issue, following which a full emergency was declared and passengers were evacuated on the runway, according to sources.

Some passengers suffered minor injuries, one of the sources said while the airline said six passengers were receiving medical attention.

Details about how the passengers suffered minor

injuries could not be immediately ascertained.

There were 232 passengers, including four infants, and 13 crew members onboard the A330-300 aircraft with registration HB-JHK that was to operate the flight LX147 when the incident took place around 1 am.

The sources said smoke was observed from the port side of the main wheel and initially, the input was that there was smoke from one of the landing gears.

Delhi airport operator Dial said the operations at

the airport remained unaffected due to the incident involving the aircraft.

"Shortly after takeoff, just after 1.00 am local time in India, an issue occurred with one of the engines. The crew rejected the takeoff and, following an assessment of the situation, decided as a precaution to evacuate the aircraft," the spokesperson said.

Six passengers were receiving medical attention and the crew was unharmed, he added.

The sources said some passengers suffered minor

injuries during the evacuation.

"All passengers and crew evacuated the aircraft via the emergency slides. Six passengers are undergoing medical evaluation. For a small number of individuals who were unable to use the slides, stairs were provided," the spokesperson said.

Swiss International Air Lines is known as Swiss.

The sources said initially, a call regarding full emergency and the aircraft suffering tyre burst was received from the air traffic controller (ATC).

— PTI

उड़ान भरते समय विमान का इंजन फेल, आग लगी, छह यात्री घायल

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर हादसा : ज्यूरिख जा रहे विमान में थे 245 लोग

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर ज्यूरिख जा रहे स्विस् इंटरनेशनल एयरलाइंस के विमान का एक इंजन फेल होने के बाद उसमें आग लग गई। इससे पायलट को विमान का टेकऑफ अचानक रोकना पड़ा और एयरपोर्ट पर पूर्ण इमरजेंसी घोषित कर दी गई। विमान में सवार सभी यात्रियों को इमरजेंसी स्लाइड के जरिये उतार लिया गया। हादसे में छह लोगों को चोटें आई हैं, उन्हें अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। दमकल की गाड़ियों ने कुछ ही मिनटों में आग पर काबू पा लिया गया। दिल्ली में विमान हादसे को 10 दिन में यह दूसरी घटना है।

विमान में चार नवजात बच्चों समेत कुल 245 लोग सवार थे। इनमें 232 यात्री और चालक दल के 13 सदस्य थे। चालक दल के एक सदस्य को भी हल्की चोट आई है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर शनिवार देर रात करीब एक बजे एयरबस ए330-300 विमान उड़ान भरने के लिए तैयार था। उड़ान संख्या एलएक्स147 के रनवे पर गति पकड़ते समय विमान के एक इंजन में



विमान से यात्रियों को सुरक्षित उतारकर पानी की बौछार की गई। एजेंसी

सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल लागू, एयरपोर्ट संचालन सामान्य

■ दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लि. (डायल) ने बताया कि रनवे 28/10 पर तुरंत सभी सुरक्षा उपाय लागू किए गए और यात्रियों को सुरक्षित निकाला गया। एयरपोर्ट पर सभी कामकाज सामान्य है।

■ हादसे की जांच जारी : स्विस् एयरलाइंस ने कहा, इंजन में आई खराबी के कारणों की जांच की जाएगी। कंपनी के तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ दिल्ली आएंगे।
■ सभी यात्रियों को होटल में ठहराया गया है। उनकी आगे की यात्रा के लिए वैकल्पिक उड़ानों की व्यवस्था की गई है।

आग लग गई। सूत्रों ने बताया कि विमान में बाईं ओर लैंडिंग गियर से तेज आवाज आई और धुआं उठता देखा गया। विमान को तत्काल रोक कर आपातकालीन निकासी की गई।

कुछ यात्रियों के लिए सीढ़ियों का भी इस्तेमाल किया गया। इमरजेंसी स्लाइड से उतरते समय छह लोग घायल हो गए। रनवे संख्या 28 को कुछ देर के लिए बंद कर दिया गया। व्यूरो



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

एअर इंडिया की उड़ान ने खराबी के बाद भोपाल में सुरक्षित लैंडिंग की

भोपाल। मुंबई से आ रही एअर इंडिया की एक उड़ान ने विमान में खराबी के बाद भोपाल में प्राथमिकता के आधार पर लैंडिंग की। विमान में 175 लोग सवार थे। हवाईअड्डे के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि विमान ने दोपहर बाद 3:20 बजे सुरक्षित लैंडिंग की। खराबी के कारण भोपाल से मुंबई जाने वाली उड़ान को वापसी यात्रा रद्द कर दी गई, जिसमें 178 यात्रियों ने बुकिंग कराई थी। भारतीय हवाई अड्डा प्राधिकरण (एएआई) की ओर से जारी बयान के अनुसार, एअर इंडिया की उड़ान एआई 633 ने मुंबई से भोपाल की उड़ान के दौरान वायु यातायात नियंत्रण (एटीसी) को तकनीकी खराबी की सूचना दी। एटीसी



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

IndiGo may soar past peers in Navi Mumbai ops

SURAJEET DAS GUPTA

New Delhi, 25 April

Airline IndiGo has a dominant share — nearly 70 per cent — of the departing flights from four-month-old Navi Mumbai International Airport Ltd (NMIAL), taking a huge lead over its rivals, according to the data for April.

The strategy and bet taken by airlines have helped NMIAL to increase the number of departing flights from the airport fourfold — from 20 a day in March to 80 in April.

The push comes even while IndiGo's key competitor, the Air India group, has flagged concern on shifting operations to the new airport (it does not fly from or to it), higher tariffs, increased costs in case operations are split between NMIAL and the airport in Mumbai, and inadequate road and metro connectivity.



IndiGo accounts for nearly 70% of all the departing flights from the Navi Mumbai International Airport. It has deployed an average of 55 departing daily flights from the 4-month-old airport

PHOTO: @NAVIMUMAIRPORT/X

However, IndiGo has deployed an average of 55 departing daily flights (385 flights a week) from the airport. Not only that, in a major push it has flights connecting 45 destinations including Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Patna, and Chandigarh.

The large increase has pushed the NMIAL to become the ninth-largest domestic airport in the country, ahead of the one in Guwahati, and is expected to overtake Pune soon.

The other two carriers with operations at the airport are Akasa, which has direct flights to Delhi, Kolkata,

Lucknow, and Bengaluru, among others, and Air India Express. Both run seven to eight departures a day.

Aviation experts say the expansion in NMIAL is closely tied up with the availability of new planes the airlines need to expand.

They are of the view that a reason IndiGo has been able to deploy capacity is the continuous and consistent induction of new planes to its fleet even this year. According to the airline, it had deployed seven new planes in calendar year 2026 to date, with the bulk of them being the A320 neo.

Akasa has also increased its fleet by inducting this year seven 737 Max 8, according to *planesplotter.com*, giving it more flexibility. In contrast Air India has not inducted any new planes this year till now, according to the data on the same website.

हादसा टला • ज्यूरिख जा रही फ्लाइट में 232 यात्री थे दिल्ली में स्विस विमान का इंजन खराब, टेकऑफ अटका; 6 घायल



हादसे की जांच के लिए स्विट्जरलैंड से आएंगे तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ

भास्कर न्यूज | नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर ज्यूरिख जा रहे स्विस इंटरनेशनल एयरलाइंस के एक विमान के इंजन में खराबी आने के बाद टेकऑफ रद्द कर दिया गया। विमान में 245 लोग सवार थे। पूर्ण आपातकाल घोषित कर सभी यात्रियों और क्रू सदस्यों को आपातकालीन स्लाइड से विमान से निकाला गया।

घटना शनिवार रात करीब 1 बजे की है। विमान में 4 शिशुओं समेत 232 यात्री और

13 क्रू सदस्य सवार थे। चार यात्रियों को चोट आने के बाद अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। एक केबिन क्रू सदस्य के टखने में मोच आई है, जबकि एक सदस्य के पैर में मामूली चोट है। यात्रियों को होटलों में ठहराया गया है और उनके लिए दूसरी फ्लाइट में बुकिंग कराई गई है। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, फ्लाइट के टेकऑफ के दौरान विमान के एक इंजन में कुछ तकनीकी खराबी आ गई। मुख्य पहिये के बाईं ओर से धुआं निकलता देखा गया। विमान दुर्घटना जांच ब्यूरो (एएआईबी) इस घटना की जांच करेगा। विमान की जांच करने और आगे की कार्रवाई के लिए स्विट्जरलैंड के तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ दिल्ली आएंगे।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

एयर कार्गो के विस्तार के लिए 'सी-एयर' कार्गो हब बनाने की जरूरत : मामिडाला

नई दिल्ली, 26 अप्रैल (एजेंसियां)। देश में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक विनिर्माण के तेज विकास के बीच एयर कार्गो क्षेत्र में काफी संभावनाएं हैं और इसे भुनाने के लिए 'सी-एयर' वाले बड़े कार्गो हब बनाने की जरूरत है जहां बंदरगाह और हवाई अड्डा एक साथ हों। एयर इंडिया कार्गो के प्रमुख और भारतीय एयर कार्गो फोरम (एसीएफआई) के उपाध्यक्ष रमेश मामिडाला का मानना है कि भारत का हवाई माल परिवहन (एयर कार्गो) अगले चार-पांच साल में तीन गुना होकर एक करोड़ टन तक पहुंचने की क्षमता रखता है। उन्होंने पश्चिम एशिया युद्ध के भारतीय एयर कार्गो क्षेत्र पर पड़े प्रभाव की भी बात की।

श्री मामिडाला ने यहां एक कार्यक्रम से इतर समाचार एजेंसी 'यूनीवार्ता' के साथ एक विशेष बातचीत में कहा कि मौजूदा समय में देश में सालाना 35 लाख टन के अधिक एयर कार्गो का संचालन होता है जिसके इस साल के अंत तक 40 लाख टन पर पहुंचने की उम्मीद है। उन्होंने कहा कि अगले



भारत का हवाई माल परिवहन चार-पांच साल में एक करोड़ टन तक पहुंचने की क्षमता रखता है: रमेश मामिडाला, उपाध्यक्ष, एसीएफआई

चार-पांच साल में यह आंकड़ा लगभग एक करोड़ टन पर पहुंच सकता है और साल 2047 तक इसके 2.5 करोड़ टन पर पहुंचने की संभावना है। बेहतर होते सड़क संपर्क और जलमार्गों को सरकार द्वारा मिल रहे प्रोत्साहन के बारे में पूछे जाने पर उन्होंने कहा कि ये सभी माध्यम अच्छा प्रदर्शन करेंगे और एक-दूसरे के पूरक होंगे, प्रतिस्पर्धी नहीं। देश में सभी परिवहन माध्यमों की मांग बनी रहेगी। उन्होंने

कहा कि छोटे और मझौले शहरों से बड़े एयर कार्गो हब तक माल लाने के लिए अच्छी सड़कों की जरूरत है।

उन्होंने कहा कि बेहतर सड़क परिवहन का प्रभाव मुख्यतः क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर पड़ा है, खासकर गैर-मेट्रो शहरों के बीच। पहले जो घरेलू कार्गो एयरलाइंस द्वारा ले जाया जाता था, उसका कुछ हिस्सा अब सड़क मार्ग से जाने लगा है क्योंकि यह सस्ता और अधिक कुशल है। लेकिन इससे चिंता की बात नहीं है, क्योंकि उसके बदले एयर कार्गो की क्षमता अब ई-कॉमर्स और विनिर्माण जैसे क्षेत्रों द्वारा उपयोग की जा रही है।

भविष्य में हब-एंड-स्पोक मॉडल विकसित करने की जरूरत को रेखांकित करते हुए श्री मामिडाला ने कहा कि अभी देश में बड़े अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कार्गो हब नहीं हैं, लेकिन जैसे ही बनेंगे, गैर-मेट्रो रूट फीडर के रूप में काम करेंगे। अल्पावधि में एक करोड़ टन और 2047 तक ढाई करोड़ टन के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने के लिए यह आवश्यक है।

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर विमान के इंजन में आग, 190 की स्पीड पर लगाने पड़े इमरजेंसी ब्रेक टेक आफ के दौरान हुई घटना, इमरजेंसी स्लाइड से उतरते समय पांच लोग घायल हुए

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर शनिवार देर रात एक बड़ा विमान हादसा होते-होते बचा। दिल्ली से ज्वुरिख जा रहे स्विस् एयरलाइंस के विमान एयरबस ए330-343 (ठडान संख्या एलएक्स-147) के टेक आफ के दौरान इंजन में आग लग गई। घुआं निकलता देख पायलट ने तुरंत इमरजेंसी ब्रेक लगाया। उस समय रफतार करीब 190 किमी प्रति घंटा थी और विमान में 232 यात्री व कू के 13 सदस्य सवार थे। अफरातफरी के बीच सभी को इमरजेंसी स्लाइड के जरिये विमान से निकाला जाने लगा, जिसमें चार यात्री और कू का एक सदस्य घायल हो गया। अग्निशमन विभाग के अनुसार, शनिवार रात 2:06 बजे फुल इमरजेंसी की काल मिलते ही पांच फायर टैंडर्स को रनवे पर भेजा गया और करीब डेढ़ घंटे की मशकत व सुरक्षा जांच के बाद 3:30 बजे तक स्थिति को पूरी तरह नियंत्रण में ले लिया गया।

यह घटना एयरपोर्ट के रनवे 28/10 की है। विमान रनवे पर टेकआफ के लिए करीब 190 किमी प्रति घंटा की रफतार से बढ़ रहा था, तभी पायलट ने बाएं इंजन से घुआं निकलते देखा। टेक आफ के समय विमान की इस रफतार को इतना अधिक माना जाता है कि पलक झपकते ही बड़ा हादसा हो सकता

- दिल्ली से ज्वुरिख जा रहे स्विस् एयरलाइंस के विमान में सवार थे 232 यात्री व कू के 13 सदस्य
- चंद सेकेंड की भी देरी होती तो विमान हवा में होता और आग फैलने पर परिणाम भयावह होता



इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट पर विमान को रोकने के बाद गेट खोल दिया गया। इसके बाद स्लाइडर खोला गया, ताकि यात्री जल्दी नीचे उतर सकें ● तैरिछोत्र

था। इस गति में चंद सेकेंड बाद ही विमान के हवा में ठडान भरने की प्रक्रिया शुरू होती है। पायलट ने सुझबुझ दिखाते हुए तुरंत इमरजेंसी ब्रेक लगाया। यदि चंद सेकेंड की भी देरी होती तो विमान हवा में होता और आग फैलने की स्थिति में परिणाम भयावह हो सकता था।

विमान जैसे ही रुका, पायलट ने एटीसी को अवगत कराते हुए विमान

में फुल इमरजेंसी घोषित की। कू मेंबर्स ने यात्रियों को इमरजेंसी स्लाइड से उतरने को कहा। अंधेरे और अफरातफरी के बीच निकासी के दौरान चार यात्रियों व कू के एक सदस्य को मामूली चोट आई।

करीब तीन घंटे तक रुके स्लाइड, दो दर्जन उड़ानें प्रभावित: हादसे के बाद रनवे 28/10 पर करीब तीन घंटे विमानों की आवाजही बंद

इंजन में खराबी या आग की पहले ही चुकी घटनाएं

मार्च 2026: विशाखापत्तनम से दिल्ली आ रहे इंडिओ विमान का इंजन फेल हो गया।

जनवरी: पेरिस से दिल्ली आ रहे विमान के इंजन में तकनीकी खराबी के कारण उसे कजाकिस्तान छयवर्ट करना पड़ा।

अक्टूबर 2025: दुबई से कोच्चि आ रहे स्पाइसजेट विमान के इंजन से घुआं निकलने की सूचना मिली।

अगस्त: दिल्ली से मुंबई जा रहे इंडिओ के एक विमान के इंजन में 'मिड-एयर' (हवा में) तकनीकी खराबी के बाद चिंगारियां देखी गईं।

मई: बेंगलुरु से कोच्चि जा रहे एयर इंडिया एवसप्रेस के विमान के इंजन में उछान भरने के तुरंत बाद आग लग गई।

(इन घटनाओं में सभी यात्री और कू के सदस्य सुरक्षित रहे)

रही। दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (डायल) के लिए चिंता की बात यह थी कि सुबह पांच बजे से एयरपोर्ट पर विमानों के परिचालन के लिफ्टज से व्यस्त समय शुरू हो जाता है। खराब विमान को रनवे से हटाना उसके लिए प्राथमिकता थी। सूत्रों का कहना है कि रनवे बंद रहने से करीब दो दर्जन ठडानें प्रभावित हुईं।

ईरानी हवाई क्षेत्र आंशिक रूप से खुला, खाड़ी देशों से बढ़ीं भारत के लिए उड़ानें

नई दिल्ली, आइएनएस : ईरान का हवाई क्षेत्र मालवाहक और चार्टर्ड उड़ानों के लिए आंशिक रूप से खुल गया है। हालांकि, विदेश मंत्रालय ने भारतीय नागरिकों को ईरान की यात्रा से बचने की सलाह दी है और जो पहले से वहां हैं, उनसे दूतावास के सहयोग से भूमि सीमा के रास्ते देश छोड़ने का आग्रह किया गया है। अब तक तेहरान स्थित भारतीय दूतावास ने भूमि सीमा मार्गों के माध्यम से 2,445 भारतीय नागरिकों को ईरान से बाहर निकलने में सहायता की है।

इजरायल का हवाई क्षेत्र खुला है और क्षेत्र के गंतव्यों के लिए सीमित उड़ानें फिर से शुरू हो गई हैं, जिनका उपयोग भारत की आगे की यात्रा के लिए किया जा सकता है। संयुक्त अरब अमीरात में, परिचालन और सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं के आधार पर एयरलाइंस भारत के लिए सीमित वाणिज्यिक उड़ानें संचालित करना जारी रखे हुए हैं।

सऊदी अरब और ओमान के विभिन्न हवाई अड्डों से भारत के विभिन्न गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ानें जारी हैं। कतर का हवाई क्षेत्र आंशिक रूप से खुला होने के कारण कतर एयरवेज भी भारत के

विदेश मंत्रालय ने भारतीय नागरिकों को ईरान की यात्रा से बचने की दी है सलाह पहले से जो वहां हैं, उनसे दूतावास के सहयोग से देश छोड़ने का किया है आग्रह



प्रतीकात्मक

विभिन्न गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ानें संचालित कर रही है।

जजीरा एयरवेज और कुवैत एयरवेज ने कुवैत से भारत के लिए सीमित उड़ानें फिर से शुरू कर दी हैं। बहरीन का हवाई क्षेत्र भी खुला है और गल्फ एयर बहरीन से भारत के विभिन्न गंतव्यों के लिए उड़ानें संचालित कर रही है। इसके अलावा, इराक का हवाई क्षेत्र भी खुला है और क्षेत्र के विभिन्न गंतव्यों के लिए सीमित उड़ानें संचालित हो रही हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

● SALIL GUPTA, PRESIDENT, BOEING INDIA AND SOUTH ASIA

'India aircraft fleet to quadruple by 2044'

Boeing is deepening its India play as the country rapidly emerges as one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets. Salil Gupta, president, Boeing India and South Asia tells Alhar Merchant about the company's growth trajectory, its 'Make in India' commitment, and how it is positioning to capture rising demand across passenger and cargo segments. Excerpts:

How has Boeing's India business performed over the past 3-5 years? Where are you seeing strong growth commercial or defence?

Over the past 3-5 years, Boeing's India business has grown steadily, anchored by defence and supported by strong momentum in commercial aviation. On the commercial side, demand remains strong with

large orders from Air India and Akasa Air. Our outlook projects demand for 3,300 aircraft by 2044, implying a fourfold expansion of the fleet.

Beyond growth, we remain focused on safety, quality and delivery reliability.

On the defence side, platforms such as the P-8I, Apache and Chinook helicopters, and the C-17 fleet have been central to India's modernisation efforts. Boeing Defence India continues to support mission readiness through cost-effective sustainment, training and timely execution.

Beyond aircraft sales, what are your key bets in India and how deep is your 'Make in India' commitment?

Boeing's role in India goes well beyond aircraft sales. We have over 80 years of presence

in the country and are deeply invested across the aerospace value chain, manufacturing, engineering, MRO, skilling and sustainability. We source over \$1.3 billion annually from more than 375 suppliers in

India, including over 25% MSMEs, making us the largest foreign OEM sourcing from the country.

India is set to become the world's third-largest aviation market. How is Boeing positioning itself?

India already has one of the fastest-growing aviation markets globally, with strong headroom for expansion driven by rising incomes, a growing middle class and infrastructure investment. Boeing

is well positioned with a combination of fuel-efficient aircraft such as the 737 MAX for domestic and regional routes, and the 787 and 777 for long-haul operations. India will also require around 141,000 aviation professionals and over \$195 billion in aviation services over the next two decades. We are supporting this through a \$100 million commitment to pilot training and continued investment in skilling initiatives.

What is the outlook on deliveries and order pipeline from India?

Deliveries to Indian customers will continue at a steady pace of around two aircraft per month through 2026. We are working closely with our airline customers to support their fleet plans and meet delivery schedules.



INDIA ALREADY HAS ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING AVIATION MARKETS GLOBALLY, WITH STRONG HEADROOM FOR EXPANSION



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

दिल्ली से ज्यूरिख जा रहे विमान में आग, छह घायल

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। दिल्ली से शनिवार आधी रात के बाद ज्यूरिख के लिए उड़ान भर रहे विमान के पहिए में धुआं उठता देख उसे रोक दिया गया। आपात स्थिति में यात्रियों को उतारा गया। इस दौरान छह यात्रियों को मामूली चोट आने की खबर है, जिन्हें चिकित्सीय मदद उपलब्ध कराई गई।

जानकारी के अनुसार, स्विस विमानन कंपनी के विमान को रात करीब एक बजे दिल्ली से रवाना होना था। इस विमान में चार बच्चों समेत कुल 232 यात्री और चालक दल के 13 सदस्य सवार थे। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, उड़ान भरने के दौरान विमान के मुख्य पहिए के बाईं ओर धुआं उठता देखा गया। चालक दल ने तुरंत उड़ान को रोक दिया गया और विमान को खाली कराने का निर्णय लिया। यात्रियों और

- विमान के पहिये में आग देखकर उसे रोका गया
- विमान में 232 यात्री, 13 चालक दल के सदस्य थे

चालक दल के सदस्यों को इमरजेंसी स्लाइड के जरिए बाहर निकाला गया। निकासी के दौरान कुछ यात्रियों को मामूली चोटें आईं।

स्विट्जरलैंड से विशेषज्ञों की टीम आएगी : सूत्रों के मुताबिक, स्विट्जरलैंड से तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों की टीम विमान की जांच के लिए दिल्ली आएगी। विमानन कंपनी सभी यात्रियों के लिए आगे की यात्रा की शीघ्र और उपयुक्त वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था करने में जुटी हुई है, जबकि दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे की स्थानीय टीम भी यात्रियों के साथ सीधे संपर्क में है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

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खराबी के बाद भोपाल में विमान की हुई लैंडिंग

भोपाल। मुंबई से भोपाल आ रही एयर इंडिया की एक फ्लाइट में तकनीकी खराबी के कारण यहां प्राथमिकता के आधार पर लैंडिंग हुई। इसमें 175 यात्री सवार थे।

एएआई द्वारा संचालित भोपाल एयरपोर्ट ने एक बयान में कहा कि एयर इंडिया की फ्लाइट ने मुंबई से भोपाल की उड़ान के दौरान एयर ट्राफिक कंट्रोल को एक तकनीकी समस्या की सूचना दी थी। तुरंत सभी निर्धारित सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल सक्रिय कर दिए गए।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

Swiss flight aborts take-off after suspected engine failure, 5 hurt

Neha LM Tripathi

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Four passengers and a crew member suffered "minor injuries" and required medical attention after a Swiss International Air Lines flight bound for Zurich aborted take-off at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport early on Sunday following a suspected engine failure and fire reported near the plane's landing gear, triggering an emergency evacuation.

"The aircraft, an Airbus A330-300 operating as flight SWR146 from Delhi to Zurich, rejected take-off from runway 28 at 1.27am on Sunday. It was carrying 245 people on board,



Smoke was reported on the left side of the aircraft and fire near the right landing gear, an official said.

SOURCED

and the pilot in command was captain Guillermo Maximiliano Mulet," an official said.

A full emergency was declared at IGI Airport at 1.35am and Runway 28 was blocked.

Smoke was reported on the left side of the aircraft and fire near the right landing gear, an official aware of the development said.

→P4

→AIR INDIA FLIGHT SUFFERS SNAG, P11

{ IGI AIRPORT } 245 EVACUATED AFTER EMERGENCY

Swiss flight aborted after fire; 5 injured

Neha LM Tripathi

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Four passengers and a crew member suffered "minor injuries" and required medical attention after a Swiss International Air Lines flight bound for Zurich aborted take-off at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport early on Sunday following a suspected engine failure and fire reported near the plane's landing gear, triggering an emergency evacuation.

"The aircraft, an Airbus A330-300 operating as flight SWR146 from Delhi to Zurich, rejected take-off from runway 28 at 1.27am on Sunday. It was carrying 245 people on board, and the pilot in command was captain Guillermo Maximiliano Mulet," an official aware of the matter said.

Of the 245 people on board, 232 were passengers (129 Indian nationals, 103 international passengers) and 13 crew members, three of whom were Indians, officials said.

Four passengers were moved to a hospital, while a cabin crew member sustained a sprained ankle during the incident. The other crew members were unharmed, the airline said.

The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is investigating the matter, which is classified as a "serious incident," according to a central government official who asked not to be identified.

"AAIB began its investigation on Sunday and collected the fuel sample. A team from the airline is also scheduled to fly down to Delhi to assist the investigation," the official added.

Swiss Air issued a formal statement after the incident on Sunday, stating, "We are aware of an incident involving flight LX147 in Delhi. The aircraft involved is an Airbus A330, registration HB-JHK. SWISS has established a task force... Shortly after take-off, just after 1am local time, an issue occurred with one of the engines. The crew rejected the take-off and, following an assessment of the situation,



The Airbus A330-300 aborted take off at Delhi airport. SOURCE

 A full emergency was declared at Delhi Airport. All safety protocols were executed, and passengers were safely evacuated. Operations were unaffected

DELHI AIRPORT STATEMENT

decided as a precaution to evacuate the aircraft."

A full emergency was declared at IGI Airport – the busiest in the country – at 1.35am, and Runway 28 was blocked. Smoke was reported on the left side of the aircraft and fire near the right landing gear, an official aware of the development said.

"The crew rejected take-off at a speed of around 106 knots after he informed ATC (air traffic control) that he was rejecting take-off due to one engine failure. The crew immediately requested fire services, after which crash fire tenders and follow-me vehicles were allowed onto the runway," another official said.

Officials said the aircraft had arrived in Delhi from Zurich at 11.40pm on Saturday.

"All four passengers received minor injuries. While one was given first aid by the airport operator at Terminal 3 of IGI Airport, three others were taken to Medanta Hospital. A woman passenger suffered a minor fracture while using the emergency slides, while all others sustained bruises," an official aware of the details of the incident told HT.

"All passengers and crew evacuated the aircraft via the emergency slides. Passengers are currently undergoing medical evaluation. For a small number of individuals who could not use the slides, stairs were provided," the airline statement said.

"Despite the alarming nature of the incident, all tyres were found intact," an official said.

The remaining 227 passengers were safely moved to the special reception centre (SRC) managed by Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), which activated its Crisis Management Centre (CMC) and co-ordinated a multi-agency response.

Delhi airport also issued a statement. "In the early hours of this morning, a full emergency was declared at Delhi Airport involving Swiss International Airlines flight LX 147 (DEL-ZRH) on Runway 28/10. All prescribed safety protocols were promptly executed, and passengers were safely evacuated. Airport operations remained unaffected," it said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

AIR INDIA FLIGHT MAKES 'PRIORITY' LANDING AFTER SNAG IN BHOPAL

BHOPAL: A Bhopal-bound Air India flight from Mumbai carrying 175 persons on board made a "priority" landing in Bhopal on Sunday due to a snag, an airport official said.

The aircraft landed safely at Bhopal airport at 3.20 pm, he said. Consequently, the return leg of the flight from Bhopal to Mumbai, with 178 passengers booked, was cancelled, the official said.

AAI-run Bhopal airport said in a statement that Air India flight AI 633 "reported a technical issue to Air Traffic Control (ATC) during the flight from Mumbai to Bhopal". Immediately, all prescribed safety protocols were activated, and seamless coordination was ensured between ATC, airline ground operations, CISF and airport fire and rescue team of Bhopal airport, it said in a statement. The flight, carrying 166 passengers and nine crew members, landed safely at Bhopal airport at 3.20 pm, the airport operator said.

All necessary assistance and support were extended by the airport and airline teams as per the requirements of the flight crew, it said. "Due to the technical issue, the aircraft was declared unserviceable, and as a precautionary measure, the return flight AI-634 (Bhopal to Mumbai) was cancelled by the airline to facilitate detailed inspection and rectification," the statement said.

PTI

Summer travel picks up in Tamil Nadu, but trips get shorter amid rising costs

Many choose budget-friendly getaways closer to home, while others opt for neighbouring countries for affordable trips; business-class travellers and corporate professionals drive demand

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

With polling over and temperatures soaring across Tamil Nadu, people are packing their bags to escape the heat with a quick holiday.

With airfares and travel costs rising amid global tensions, many travellers are choosing shorter, budget-friendly getaways closer to home, while others are turning to neighbouring countries for affordable international trips.

“We’re clearly seeing a shift this summer. With rising airfares to Southeast Asia and nearby international destinations, many travellers are choosing to stay within India and opting for shorter, road-trip style getaways. The format is largely short-distance, short-duration, and self-driven, with camping-led trips becoming a preferred way to experience these routes,” said Swaminathan S, Co-founder, Exoticamp. “In Tamil Nadu, the recent elections briefly dampened long-holiday plans, but demand has picked up quickly post that,” he said.

Mr. Swaminathan said astro-camping sessions in Hanle, India’s first dark sky reserve, are seeing strong interest, especially from families looking for unique,



Escape plan: Travel planners say trips within the country and the Indian subcontinent are seeing an upward trend, with strong interest in destinations such as Bhutan and Sri Lanka. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

immersive stays. “We’re also seeing strong response to curated road-trip circuits that combine multiple destinations with a mix of camping and glamping experiences,” he noted.

Social media influence

Travel agents across Tamil Nadu say young travellers are increasingly letting Instagram and social media shape their holiday plans, with influencers spotlighting hidden locations and trending destinations.

While Gen-Z travellers are busy planning budget trips through social media, it is business-class travellers and corporate professionals – armed with big-

ger budgets and a taste for convenience – who are driving demand at travel agencies this summer.

“We continue to see strong travel interest from Tamil Nadu travellers, with a clear preference for east-bound and far east destinations such as Japan, Vietnam, Singapore (including cruise holidays) and China,” said S.D. Nandakumar, president & country head - Holidays & Corporate Tours - SOTC Travel.

“Domestic travel within India and the Indian subcontinent is seeing encouraging traction, with strong interest in destinations such as Bhutan and Sri Lanka. We anticipate

greater travel interest post the election results,” he added.

Rajeev Kale, president & country head - Holidays, MICE, Visa, Thomas Cook (India) Limited, said Kailash Mansarovar is witnessing renewed interest with the resumption of travel after a gap of five years, supported by the reintroduction of direct flights to China.

“Kashmir too is seeing a steady revival in interest, reflecting renewed traveller confidence. Overall, we are witnessing an encouraging and sustained momentum of travel interest from the Tamil Nadu market,” he noted.

THE JUNE 12, 2025 DREAMLINER CRASH RESULTED IN CLAIMS OF ABOUT \$475 MILLION

Air India insurance premium rises just 10% despite worst crash

The carrier will pay about \$33 million in premiums this cycle, compared to approximately \$30 million previously

George Mathew
Mumbai, April 26

AIR INDIA has renewed its aviation insurance at only a modest increase in cost, despite one of the most severe incidents in its recent history in Ahmedabad. The Tata group-owned carrier has secured coverage for the year with a premium that is about 10% higher than last year, reflecting resilience in negotiations aided by soft global market conditions.

Industry sources indicate that the airline will pay roughly \$33 million in premiums this cycle, compared to approximately \$30 million previously.

Air India did not respond to a mail from *The Indian Express*.

This renewal continues to cover an extensive risk portfolio, including about \$20 billion in assets and liabilities across a fleet of nearly 300 aircraft. The airline's liability coverage is understood to remain at around \$1.5 billion.

The renewal has come at a time when Air India was dealing with claims estimated at \$475 million, stemming from the tragic Ahmedabad-London Dreamliner crash on June 12,

2025. The accident occurred shortly after take-off and resulted in the loss of 241 passengers, along with 29 fatalities on the ground, making it one of the most devastating aviation disasters involving the airline.

Despite the scale of these claims, insurers did not significantly harden their pricing.

Market participants in London, a major hub for aviation insurance and reinsurance, attribute this to continued softness in the global reinsurance market. Ample capacity and competitive underwriting conditions have helped absorb the shock of large losses without sharply pushing up premiums for major carriers like Air India.

The relatively small increase underscores how global insurance dynamics, particularly in aviation, can sometimes buffer even large, high-profile losses, allowing airlines to maintain financial stability while continuing to manage long-tail claims from major incidents.

"They had to pay one time penalty during the renewal because of massive claims and effectively there are no hikes in premium charged by the same set of re/insurers who had in-



Almost 95% of the Air India policy has been reinsured with a clutch of reinsurers led by AIG, Axa and Allianz. REUTERS FILE

sured the airline last year," said sources in the London market.

The primary insurers for the Air India's insurance policy are — Tata AIG General Insurance (lead insurer with 45% share), ICICI Lombard General Insurance (7%), New India Assurance (32%), Oriental Insurance Company (14%) and other PSU general insurers.

Almost 95% of the Air India policy has been reinsured with a clutch of reinsurers led by AIG, Axa and Allianz. GIC Re also has a share in the policy including 4% obligatory.

During the renewals last year, while the sum insured had increased, after Vistara merger — from \$12 billion to \$20 billion — the premium outgo had remained unchanged at around \$30 million.

Currently, Air India Group

has nearly 300 aircraft — Air India has a fleet of around 187 planes, and Air India Express has over 110 planes.

While globally aviation insurance premiums were expected to inch up following a spate of accidents in 2025, Air India has managed to secure good rates, insurance officials said. This is because of the overall softness in aviation insurance market and deft negotiations by the company, they said.

According to Willis, one of the leading global aviation brokers, though 2025 has proved difficult for airline insurers when claims have been frequent and costly, it's worth noting that claims activity doesn't directly reduce underwriting capacity because not all insurers are involved in every

• LIMITED IMPACT

SOFTNESS IN aviation insurance market and deft negotiations led Air India to secure good rates, say officials, even though insurance premiums were expected to go up due to a spate of accidents in 2025

AMPLE CAPACITY and competitive underwriting conditions helped absorb the shock of large losses without sharply pushing up premiums for major carriers such as Air India

claim, either as lead or following market and abundant capacity has restrained the increased rates. "The reality is that between 2021 and 2024, the airline book appears to have been broadly profitable for airline insurers, so there may be an opportunity to treat 2025 as a one-off, an "annus horribilis," where previous results and current competition combined to suppress rate increases. If capacity remains buoyant, then this might be insurers' only hope," said Willis.

According to figures released by the General Insurance Council, overall gross premium underwritten by Indian insurers declined by 0.8% to Rs 1,089.27 crore during FY26.

Of this New India Assurance accounted for Rs 436 crore in FY26.



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

27 APRIL 2026

FOUR SUFFER INJURIES

Swiss plane suffers engine problem, aborts takeoff; passengers evacuated

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: A Zurich-bound Swiss International Air Lines' plane carrying 245 people aborted takeoff at the Delhi airport early morning on Sunday due to an engine issue, following which a full emergency was declared and passengers were evacuated, with four of them suffering injuries, according to the airline.

There were 232 passengers, including four infants, and 13 crew members onboard the A330-300 aircraft with registration HB-JHK that was to operate the flight LX147 when the incident took place around 1 am. Officials said that the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) would probe the incident.

AAIB investigates accidents as well as incidents that are classified as serious.

"Four passengers remain in the hospital... A cabin crew member sustained a sprained



ankle. The other crew members are unharmed," an airline spokesperson said in an updated statement and added that the one cabin crew member suffered a minor foot injury.

Details about how the passengers suffered injuries could not be immediately ascertained.

Shortly after 1 am local time on April 26, an issue occurred with one of the engines during the takeoff of flight LX147 in Delhi. "The crew aborted the

takeoff and, after assessing the situation, decided as a precaution to evacuate the aircraft," the spokesperson said.

Sources said smoke was observed from the port side of the main wheel and initially, the input was that there was smoke from one of the landing gears. Delhi airport operator DIAL said the operations at the airport remained unaffected due to the incident involving the aircraft. In an earlier statement, the airline spokesper-

CLOSER LOOK

» There were 232 passengers, including four infants, 13 crew members onboard the A330-300 aircraft with registration HB-JHK that was to operate the flight LX147 when the incident took place around 1 am

» Officials said that the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) would probe the incident

son had said all passengers and crew evacuated the aircraft via the emergency slides.

"Six passengers are undergoing medical evaluation. For a small number of individuals who were unable to use the slides, stairs were provided," the spokesperson had said.

Swiss International Air Lines is known as Swiss.

The sources said initially, a call regarding full emergency and the aircraft suffering tyre burst was received from the Air

Traffic Controller (ATC). After the checking was done by the airside team, it was confirmed that during the rejected takeoff, smoke was observed originating from the port side of the main wheel, they added.

Delhi airport operator DIAL said in the early hours of Sunday, a full emergency was declared for flight LX147 on Runway 28/10.

"All prescribed safety protocols were promptly executed, and passengers were safely evacuated. Airport operations remained unaffected," DIAL said in a post on X. The airline spokesperson said it was determined to fully understand what led to this incident, including what led to the engine problem.

Regretting the inconvenience caused, the spokesperson said, "We are aware that such an event can be stressful and traumatic for those affected. Our teams remain in close contact with our passengers."

दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर स्विस् प्लेन के इंजन में खराबी

245 लोग सवार थे, 6 यात्री घायल

om पर जाएं।



■ नवीन निश्चल, नई दिल्ली

स्विट्जरलैंड के ज्यूरिख जा रही स्विस् इंटरनेशनल एयरलाइंस की एक फ्लाइट को रविवार रात करीब एक बजे दिल्ली हवाईअड्डे पर टेकऑफ के दौरान इंजन में आई खराबी के कारण रोकना पड़ा। यात्रियों को स्लाइड से बाहर निकाला गया। बाद में कुछ यात्रियों के लिए सीढ़ियों की व्यवस्था की गई। इस दौरान 6 यात्री घायल हो गए। एयरबस A330-300 विमान में 245 लोग सवार थे, जिनमें 4 बच्चों समेत 232 यात्री और 13 कू सदस्य शामिल थे। एयरलाइन के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि टेकऑफ के दौरान एक इंजन में समस्या का पता चला तो पायलटो ने टेकऑफ रोक दिया और एहतियात के तौर पर विमान को खाली करने का फैसला हुआ। एयरपोर्ट पर फुल इमरजेंसी की सूचना पर फायर ब्रिगेड की 5 गाड़ियां भी भेजी गई थीं। रनवे पर सभी सुरक्षा एजेंसियों को अलर्ट किया गया।

यात्रियों को स्लाइड के जरिए विमान

से बाहर निकाला गया

सूत्रों के मुताबिक, विमान के मुख्य पहिए के बाए हिस्से (पोर्ट साइड) से धुआं निकलता देखा गया। शुरुआत में यह आशंका जताई गई थी कि लैंडिंग गियर से धुआं उठ रहा है। एयर टैफिक कंट्रोल (ATC) को शुरुआत में टायर फटने की सूचना मिली थी। दिल्ली इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (DIAL) ने कहा कि इस घटना के बावजूद हवाईअड्डे का संचालन सामान्य रहा। एयरलाइन ने कहा कि वह इस घटना के कारणों, विशेषकर इंजन में आई खराबी की पूरी जांच करेगी।

प्लेन के पहिए से धुआं उठता दिखा

हादसे के बाद यात्रियों को इस विमान से ज्यूरिख जाने वाले यात्रियों को हॉटेलों में ठहराया गया है। उनके लिए वैकल्पिक उड़ानों का इंतजाम किया जा रहा है। फायर ब्रिगेड के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि करीब 16 मिनट में सब सामान्य हो गया।

वैकल्पिक उड़ानों से भेजे जाएंगे यात्री

हादसे के बाद यात्रियों को इस विमान से ज्यूरिख जाने वाले यात्रियों को हॉटेलों में ठहराया गया है। उनके लिए वैकल्पिक उड़ानों का इंतजाम किया जा रहा है। फायर ब्रिगेड के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि करीब 16 मिनट में सब सामान्य हो गया।



एयरपोर्ट पर फुल इमरजेंसी के बाद फायर ब्रिगेड की 5 गाड़ियां भेजी गई थीं।

IGI एयरपोर्ट पर फुल इमरजेंसी, फ्लाइट से 232 यात्री किए रेस्क्यू



रनवे नंबर 28 पर टेकऑफ करने के दौरान फ्लाइट में आई दिक्कत

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| ■ पायलट ने टेकऑफ कैसल कर रोकी फ्लाइट | ■ 13 क्रू मेबर, 4 बच्चे सहित 232 यात्री थे सवार | ■ 6 यात्रियों को लगी चोट, मेडिकल सहायता दी गई |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|

■ नवीन निश्चल, एयरपोर्ट

इंदिरा गांधी इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर शनिवार देर रात एक फ्लाइट को लेकर फुल इमरजेंसी की सूचना मिलते ही हड़कंप मच गया। दिल्ली से ज्यूरिख जाने वाली फ्लाइट में 13 क्रू मेबर और 4 बच्चे सहित कुल 232 यात्री सवार थे। सभी सफुशल हैं, लेकिन तकरीबन 1 घंटे 16 मिनट तक रनवे नंबर 28 पर अफायतफरी का माहौल रहा।

फायर कंट्रोल रूम से मिली जानकारी के अनुसार शनिवार रात 2:04 बजे आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर फुल इमरजेंसी की सूचना मिली थी। तुरंत फायर ब्रिगेड की 5 गाड़ियां भेजी गईं। रनवे पर सभी सुरक्षा एजेंसियां अलर्ट हो गईं। निश्चित रनवे पर मौजूद विमान से यात्रियों को स्टाइड्स के सहारे बाहर निकाला गया। इस प्रक्रिया में 1 घंटे से ज्यादा का समय लग गया। फायर अधिकारी ने इसकी पुष्टि करते हुए बताया कि शनिवार तड़के 3:20 बजे सभी को सफुशल प्लेन से निकाल लिया गया था।

जानकारी के अनुसार, रनवे नंबर 28 पर टेकऑफ करने के दौरान फ्लाइट के लैंडिंग गियर में हाइड्रोलिक प्रॉब्लम आ गई थी। जिसकी वजह से इसे टेकऑफ नहीं कराया गया। एक पहिए से धुआं निकलने की वजह से पायलट ने टेकऑफ कैसल कर फ्लाइट को रोकने का फैसला किया और तुरंत सूचना संबंधित अधिकारियों को दी। यह फ्लाइट नंबर LX147 दिल्ली से ज्यूरिख जाने वाली रात एक बजे की फ्लाइट थी।



1. अचानक पहिये से निकलने लगा धुआं
2. फायरकर्मियों ने संभाला मोर्चा

‘हो रही है जांच’

एयरलाइंस और डायल ने इसकी पुष्टि करते हुए कहा कि विमान में आई दिक्कत की जांच की जा रही है। सभी क्रू मेबर, हवाई यात्री सुरक्षित हैं। जिन 6 यात्रियों को चोट लगी थी, उन्हें तुरंत मेडिकल हेल्प उपलब्ध कराई गई है। फायर की इतनी गाड़ियां इसलिए भेजी गईं कि आग लगने की स्थिति में उस पर तुरंत काबू पा सके। क्योंकि प्लेन में हजारों गैलन जेट फ्यूल भरा होता है, आग लगने पर इसे बुझाने में काफी मशक्कत करनी पड़ती है।

युद्ध संकट से भारतीय एविएशन को झटका अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में 40 फीसदी गिरावट

नई दिल्ली, 26 अप्रैल (एजेंसी): मध्य-पूर्व में बढ़ते सैन्य तनाव ने भारतीय विमानन उद्योग को गहरा झटका दिया है। गल्फ क्षेत्र में एयरस्पेस बंद होने और बड़े पैमाने पर उड़ानों के रद्द होने से मार्च महीने में भारतीय एयरलाइंस की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में भारी गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डी.जी.सी.ए.) के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक मार्च में भारतीय एयरलाइंस की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानें 40 फीसदी गिरकर 11,284 रह गईं, जो पिछले साल इसी महीने 18,502 थीं। वहीं विदेशी यात्रियों की संख्या भी 36 फीसदी घटकर 18.4 लाख रह गई, जो एक साल पहले 29 लाख थी।

उड़ानों की संख्या घटकर हुई 80-90

भारतीय एयरलाइंस की लगभग आधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षमता पश्चिम एशिया (गल्फ) रूट्स पर निर्भर है। एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक मौजूदा संकट के चलते रोजाना उड़ानों की संख्या 300-350 से घटकर केवल 80-90 रह गई है। दुबई, दoha, रियाद, दमाम और शारजाह जैसे प्रमुख गंतव्य इस स्थिति से सबसे अधिक प्रभावित हुए हैं, जिससे एयरलाइंस के संचालन पर सीधा असर पड़ा है।

एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित

एयर इंडिया ग्रुप की लो-कॉस्ट एयरलाइन एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस को इस संकट का सबसे बड़ा नुकसान उठाना पड़ा है। मार्च में इसकी उड़ानों की संख्या 68% गिरकर 1,263 रह गई, जबकि यात्री संख्या 66% घटकर 1.69 लाख पर आ गई। कंपनी की 50% से अधिक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानें गल्फ क्षेत्र पर निर्भर होने के कारण यह गिरावट और भी अधिक देखने को मिली।



| मार्च | अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानें | मार्च | यात्री संख्या |
|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------|
| 2025 | 18,502 | 2025 | 29 लाख |
| 2026 | 11,284 | 2026 | 18.4 लाख |

| एयरलाइन अनुसार गिरावट | (लगभग %) |
|-----------------------|------------|
| एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस | -68% |
| स्पाइसजेट | -60% |
| इंडिगो | -36% |
| एयर इंडिया | -20% |
| अकासा एयर | -10% |

इंडिगो और स्पाइसजेट भी दबाव में

देश की सबसे बड़ी एयरलाइन इंडिगो की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में 36% की कमी आई है, जबकि यात्री संख्या 37% घट गई। वहीं स्पाइसजेट की उड़ानें 60% और यात्री संख्या 65% तक गिर गई है। हालांकि इंडिगो का यूरोप नेटवर्क फिलहाल जारी है, लेकिन एयरस्पेस प्रतिबंधों के कारण लंबा रूट अपनाने से उड़ानों का समय और लागत दोनों बढ़ गए हैं।

ईंधन महंगा, टिकट भी हुए महंगे

एयरस्पेस बंद होने और पाकिस्तान के ऊपर उड़ान प्रतिबंध के चलते एयरलाइंस को लंबा और वैकल्पिक मार्ग अपनाना पड़ रहा है। इससे जेट फ्यूल की खपत और लागत में भारी वृद्धि हुई है। जेट

फ्यूल की कीमतें लगभग दोगुनी हो चुकी हैं, जिसके कारण अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई किराए में तेज बढ़ोतरी देखी जा रही है। साथ ही फ्यूल सरचार्ज भी बढ़ा दिया गया है, जिससे यात्रियों पर अतिरिक्त बोझ पड़ रहा है।

इंडिगो और स्पाइसजेट भी दबाव में

यह संकट केवल भारत तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि वैश्विक विमानन उद्योग पर भी इसका व्यापक असर पड़ा है। ब्रोकरेज रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, प्रभावित एयरलाइंस इंडोर दुनिया के करीब 25% अंतर्राष्ट्रीय यात्री ट्रैफिक को संभालता है। ऐसे में मौजूदा स्थिति को मांग की कमी नहीं, बल्कि सप्लाय में आई बाधा के रूप में देखा जा रहा है, जिसने पूरे एविएशन सेक्टर को प्रभावित किया है।



Representative image
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Swiss plane hit by engine fault in Delhi, four injured

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
■ New Delhi

A Zurich-bound Swiss International Air Lines' plane carrying 245 people aborted takeoff at the Delhi airport early morning on Sunday due to an engine issue, following which a full emergency was declared and passengers were evacuated, with four of them suffering injuries, according to the airline.

There were 232 passengers, including four infants, and 13 crew members onboard the A330-300 aircraft with registration HB-JHK that was to operate the flight LX147 when the incident took place around 1 am.

Officials said that the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) would probe the incident. AAIB investigates accidents as well as incidents that are classified as serious.

"Four passengers remain in the hospital... A cabin crew member sustained a sprained ankle. The other crew members are unharmed," an airline spokesperson said.

CONTINUED ON ►► P4

Swiss plane hit by engine fault in Delhi, four...

Details about how the passengers suffered injuries could not be immediately ascertained.

Shortly after 1 am local time on April 26, an issue occurred with one of the engines during the takeoff of flight LX147 in Delhi.

"The crew aborted the takeoff and, after assessing the situation, decided as a precaution to evacuate the aircraft," the spokesperson said. Sources said smoke was observed from the port side of the main wheel and initially, the input was that there was smoke from one of the landing gears.

Delhi airport operator DIAL said the operations at the airport remained unaffected due to the incident involving the aircraft.

In an earlier statement, the airline spokesperson had said all passengers and crew evacuated the aircraft via the emergency slides.

"Six passengers are undergoing medical evaluation. For a small number of individuals who were unable to use the slides, stairs were provided," the spokesperson had said.

Swiss International Air Lines is known as Swiss.

The sources said initially, a call regarding full emergency and the aircraft suffering tyre burst

was received from the Air Traffic Controller (ATC). After the checking was done by the airside team, it was confirmed that during the rejected takeoff, smoke was observed originating from the port side of the main wheel, they added.

Delhi airport operator DIAL said in the early hours of Sunday, a full emergency was declared for flight LX147 on Runway 28/10.

"All prescribed safety protocols were promptly executed, and passengers were safely evacuated. Airport operations remained unaffected," DIAL said in a post on X.

The airline spokesperson said it was determined to fully understand what led to this incident, including what led to the engine problem.

Regretting the inconvenience caused, the spokesperson said, "We are aware that such an event can be stressful and traumatic for those affected. Our teams remain in close contact with our passengers and continue to support them even beyond the immediate situation.

The spokesperson, earlier, said Swiss technical specialists will travel to Delhi to inspect the aircraft and initiate the next steps.

Passengers have been accommodated in hotels and rebooked onto alternative flights.

"We were able to find an individual solution for all guests to continue their journey and remain in contact with them," the airline spokesperson said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

26 APRIL 2026

ईरान ने खोला एयरस्पेस, शुरू हुई कमर्शियल उड़ानें

ईरान ने संकेत दिए हैं कि वह अमेरिका के साथ बातचीत की दिशा में आगे बढ़ सकता है। इसी बीच ईरान ने अपना एयरस्पेस खोलते हुए कमर्शियल उड़ानों की शुरुआत कर दी है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, 28 फरवरी के बाद पहली बार ईरान में नागरिक उड़ानें शुरू हुई हैं, जिससे क्षेत्रीय हालात में नरमी के संकेत मिल रहे हैं। माना जा रहा है कि यह कदम तनाव कम करने और कूटनीतिक पहल को आगे बढ़ाने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण है। ईरान के इस फैसले से अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रियों और व्यापारिक गतिविधियों को भी राहत मिलने की उम्मीद है।

अब सस्ती फ्लाइट्स भी खोज कर देगा चैट जीपीटी

नई दिल्ली। ऑनलाइन ट्रेवल सर्च को और आसान बनाने के लिए Skyscanner ने ChatGPT के साथ साझेदारी की है। इस नई सुविधा के जरिए यूजर्स अब सीधे ChatGPT के अंदर ही फ्लाइट्स सर्च, कीमतों की तुलना और यात्रा का समय चेक कर सकते हैं। यह इंटीग्रेशन खास तौर पर उन लोगों के लिए फायदेमंद है जो ट्रिप प्लान कर रहे हैं या आखिरी समय में सस्ती फ्लाइट ढूँढना चाहते हैं। सबसे खास बात यह है कि यहां दिखाई जाने वाली जानकारी लाइव अपडेट होती है, जिससे यूजर्स को हमेशा ताजा कीमतें और विकल्प मिलते हैं।

कैसे करें इस्तेमाल?

ChatGPT के जरिए फ्लाइट सर्च करने के लिए यूजर्स को कुछ आसान स्टेप्स फॉलो करने होंगे। सबसे पहले ChatGPT ऐप या वेबसाइट में लॉग-इन करें। इसके बाद मेन्यू में



जाकर "@skyscanner सेक्शन खोलें और Skyscanner को एक्टिवेट करें। फिर एक नया चैट शुरू करें और अपनी जरूरत के मुताबिक सर्च लिखें, जैसे- 'दिल्ली से लंदन के लिए अगले महीने की सबसे सस्ती फ्लाइट बताएं।' इसके बाद एआई टूल आपको तुरंत कई

विकल्प दिखा देगा, जिनमें कीमत, एयरलाइन और यात्रा समय जैसी पूरी जानकारी शामिल होगी।

क्या हैं इसके फायदे?

इस फीचर की मदद से यूजर्स एक ही जगह पर कई फ्लाइट ऑप्शन्स देख सकते हैं और आसानी से उनकी तुलना कर सकते हैं। अगर आप

अपनी सर्च में बदलाव करना चाहते हैं, तो सिर्फ चैट में नया निर्देश देना होगा—पूरी प्रक्रिया दोबारा शुरू करने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ती। इसके अलावा, यह टूल अलग-अलग एयरलाइंस से डेटा लेकर लगातार अपडेट रहता है, जिससे

आपको हमेशा सही और ताजा जानकारी मिलती है। इतना ही नहीं, अब यूजर्स एक ही चैट के भीतर फ्लाइट्स के साथ होटल और कार रेंटल जैसी सेवाएं भी सर्च कर सकते हैं। इस नए फीचर के साथ ट्रेवल प्लानिंग पहले से कहीं ज्यादा तेज, सरल और स्मार्ट हो गई है।

DGCA tightens rules for foreign airlines operating in country

Saurabh Sinha | TNN

New Delhi: India has tightened rules for foreign airlines operating to and from the country. Now, the DGCA can “revoke or suspend” a foreign airline’s authorisation for lapses like not meeting safety standards. In one of his first orders, DGCA chief Vir Vikram Yadav said foreign airlines “shall nominate or appoint a local representative” to deal with the regulator.

While Indian carriers must follow consumer protection rules, the DGCA did not have that remit over foreign ones—this changes now. Foreign airlines must set up an effective passenger grievance redressal mechanism, maintain a complaints database, and submit periodic reports to the DGCA.

Grounds for cancelling or revoking authorisation include ownership and control not vested with the designating country or failure to maintain safety and security standards. Unless urgent, action will follow consultations with the designating govt.

If an airline fails to operate scheduled services to/from an Indian airport for four traffic seasons, its authorisation for that airport will be deemed suspended.

Industry insiders say India is now flexing its aviation muscle as IndiGo and Air India expand, reducing reliance on foreign carriers.



STRICTER NORMS

Kuwait-India flights resume

Amid the West Asia conflict, Sunday saw the first direct flights out of Kuwait after Feb 28 to India and some other countries. As of now, Kuwait’s Jazeera is making weekly plans to see how the situation evolves, reports **Saurabh Sinha**. Gulf Air flights had begun operating between Bahrain and destinations in India since April 21. UAE, however, is yet to open its doors to foreign carriers.

However, Saudi airspace is now open almost at pre-Feb 28 level, said a senior official of an Indian airline.

Foreign airlines must also apply for additional flights at least seven working days in advance and ensure they are within bilateral traffic rights and approved airport slots.



Corporate Communications Directorate

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DELHI

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Zurich flight aborts take-off after engine fire at Delhi airport

4 injured in emergency evacuation

SHEKHAR SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 26

A Zurich-bound Swiss International Airlines flight was forced to abort take-off at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in the early hours of Sunday after an engine failure led to a fire, prompting a full emergency and evacuation that left four passengers injured.

Flight LX147, operated by an Airbus A330-300, was on its take-off roll on Runway 28 at around 1.08 am when engine number one malfunctioned and caught fire. Sources said the aircraft had accelerated to about 104 knots when the crew

detected the fault and immediately rejected take-off in line with safety protocols.

The aircraft was carrying 232 passengers, including four infants, and 13 crew members at the time of the incident. The airline said shortly after 1 am, an issue occurred with one of the engines during take-off. The cockpit crew declared a full emergency and, after assessing the situation, decided to evacuate the aircraft as a precaution.

Passengers were evacuated using inflatable emergency slides. During the process, four passengers and a cabin crew member sustained minor injuries.