

नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के पास बनेगा चीन की तरह महा-बाजार

यमुना प्राधिकरण ने केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्रालय से मांगा डाटा, कंसल्टेंट देगा अपनी रिपोर्ट, देश के प्रमुख निर्यात उत्पादों को दी जाएगी होलसेल मार्केट में जगह

ग्रेटर नोएडा। चीन के होलसेल मार्केट योवू की तर्ज पर इंटरनेशनल बिजनेस एंड ट्रेड सेंटर के प्रोजेक्ट पर यमुना प्राधिकरण आगे बढ़ रहा है। कंसल्टेंट की फिजियबिलिटी रिपोर्ट सकारात्मक आने के बाद अब केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्रालय से निर्यात का डाटा मांगा गया है। इस डाटा का आकलन कर यूरोप व अन्य बाजारों में सबसे अधिक निर्यात वाले उत्पादों को चिह्नित किया जाएगा। इनसे जुड़े प्रमुख उत्पादकों व उद्यमियों से संपर्क कर उनकी सहमति भी प्राधिकरण लेगा।

एसीईओ शैलेंद्र भाटिया ने बताया कि पिछले सप्ताह कंसल्टेंट कंपनी ने इंटरनेशनल बिजनेस एंड ट्रेड सेंटर को लेकर अपना प्रजेंटेशन दिया था। सीईओ राकेश कुमार सिंह की मौजूदगी में रहे इस प्रजेंटेशन में बताया गया कि नोएडा एयरपोर्ट के आसपास के सेक्टरों में ही इसे विकसित करना उपयुक्त रहेगा। इसमें यूपी के एक जिला एक उत्पाद को जहां वरीयता दी जा सकती है। वहीं, पूरे देश के ऐसे उत्पादों को भी यहां बिक्री के लिए प्रदर्शित किया जा सकता है जिनका निर्यात पूरी दुनिया में होता है। नोएडा एयरपोर्ट का कार्गो हब इस निर्यात में तेजी लाने का बड़ा माध्यम बन सकेगा।

सीईओ ने निर्देश दिया कि केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्रालय से निर्यात का डाटा ले लिया जाए। इसके बाद इस डाटा के आधार पर ही निर्यातकों से संपर्क किया जाए। उनकी सहमति इस



सेक्टर-28 व 29 में बन सकता ट्रेड सेंटर

अधिकारियों के मुताबिक एयरपोर्ट के पास के औद्योगिक सेक्टर 28 व 29 में इस इंटरनेशनल बिजनेस एंड ट्रेड सेंटर को बनाया जा सकता है। जिन उद्योगों को वेयरहाउस की जरूरत होगी। उनको भी नजदीक के सेक्टरों में वेयरहाउस के लिए आरक्षित सेक्टरों में जगह उपलब्ध करा दी जाएगी। इस परियोजना को पीपीपी मॉडल या फिर निजी निवेश से पूरा किया जाए। इस पर भी प्राधिकरण मंथन कर रहा है।

परियोजना पर आगे बढ़ने के लिए जरूरी होगा। इसी से यह सुनिश्चित हो सकेगा कि इंटरनेशनल बिजनेस एंड ट्रेड सेंटर बनाए जाने के बाद निर्यातक या उद्यमी यहां से अपने उत्पादों के ऑर्डर को आपूर्ति करें। इस प्रजेंटेशन के बाद अब मंत्रालय को पत्र भेज दिया गया है जिससे उत्पादों को चिह्नित करने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ा जा सके।

मुख्यमंत्री पहले ही दे चुके मंजूरी : इस परियोजना के लिए मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुके हैं। इसके लिए खुद सीईओ ने एक प्रजेंटेशन मुख्यमंत्री के सामने दिया

था। इसमें बताया गया था कि कैसे योवू मार्केट में एक ही जगह पर थोक में सामान की खरीदारी कर सकते हैं। यहां मौजूद ट्रेड एजेंट को मदद एयरपोर्ट पर आए खरीदार अपना सामान चुनने और एक ही कंटेनर में भरकर कार्गो हब से निर्यात करने की सुविधा देते हैं। योवू मार्केट छह डिस्ट्रिक्ट में बंटा हुआ है जोकि वृहद आकार के छह बहुमंजिला मॉल की तरह हैं। यहां अलग-अलग उद्यमियों से सामान अपनी मांग के मुताबिक खरीदा जा सकता है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट बना भारतीय संस्कृति का अनोखा द्वार

■ एयरपोर्ट पर भारतीय कला और संस्कृति का खूबसूरत आइना उकेरने वाले पारेश माहती पद्म श्री से हुए सम्मानित

ग्रेटर नोएडा, 26 मई (देशबन्धु)। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट (एनआईए) अब सिर्फ एक एयरपोर्ट नहीं, बल्कि भारतीय कला और संस्कृति का खूबसूरत आइना बन गया है। पद्म श्री पुरस्कार विजेता मशहूर कलाकार पारेश माहती की आकर्षक कलाकृतियों ने यहां आने वाले हर यात्री का स्वागत करेगा। भारत के राष्ट्रपति द्रोपदी मुर्मू ने सोमवार को पारेश माहती को पद्म श्री पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया।

उत्तर प्रदेश की संस्कृति से सजा
एयरपोर्ट

एयरपोर्ट की डिजाइन में पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश की विरासत को खास जगह दी गई है। लाल ग्रेनाइट पत्थर का इस्तेमाल, बनारस घाटों जैसी सीढ़ियां और हवेलियों की याद



दिलाने वाला आंगन सब कुछ यात्रियों को घर जैसा महसूस कराने के लिए तैयार किया गया है। एयरपोर्ट की खासियत है - सुरक्षा जांच के बाद मिलने वाला शांत कोर्टयाई, कंचे छतें जो खुलापन का एहसास कराती हैं, भरपूर प्राकृतिक रोशनी और आसान रास्ता दिखाने वाला साइनेज। पूरा माहौल इतना सुकून भरा है कि यात्रा का तनाव खुद-ब-खुद कम हो जाता है।

8000 से ज्यादा घंटियों की जादुई कृति - 'मिस्टिक एबोड'

एयरपोर्ट के बीचों-बीच सबसे आकर्षक है पारेश माहती की विशाल स्थापना 'मिस्टिक एबोड'। इसमें 8000 से ज्यादा पीतल की घंटियां लगाई गई हैं। शोर और भागदौड़ भरी जिंदगी में शांति की तलाश कर रहे लोगों के



लिए यह कृति एक अनोखा अनुभव है। घंटियों की मधुर ध्वनि सुनकर मन को अंदर तक सुकून मिलता है। यह कलाकृति भारतीय घरों और मंदिरों में घंटियों से जुड़ी आध्यात्मिकता को याद दिलाती है।

छह पैनलों वाली विशाल पेंटिंग:
'जागृति'

कलाकार पारेश माहती की दूसरी बड़ी कृति है 'जागृति' नाम की तेल रंगों वाली विशाल पेंटिंग। यह छह बड़े पैनलों में बनी है और भारत की आध्यात्मिक यात्रा को दर्शाती है।

पेंटिंग के मुख्य हिस्से

पहला पैनल : वागणसी (काशी) - घाटों, मंदिरों और शांति से भरा नजारा

दूसरा पैनल : सारनाथ का संची स्तूप - जहां बुद्ध ने पहला उपदेश दिया

तीसरा पैनल : आगरा का ताजमहल - यमुना किनारे सुबह की रोशनी में जगमगाता ताज

चौथा पैनल : मथुरा-वृंदावन - कुसुम सरोवर और गोवर्धन की पवित्र छवि

पांचवां पैनल : अयोध्या - सरयू नदी के किनारे भगवान राम की जन्मभूमि

छठा पैनल : महाकुंभ - दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा आध्यात्मिक मेला सभी पैनलों में सुबह की सुनहरी रोशनी है, जो नई शुरुआत और आध्यात्मिक जागृति का प्रतीक है।

पारेश माहती भारत के दिग्गज कलाकार

पारेश माहती पिछले 50 साल से भारतीय कला जगत में सक्रिय हैं। उन्होंने देश-विदेश में 90 एकल प्रदर्शनियां कर चुके हैं। उनकी कलाकृतियां राष्ट्रपति भवन, ब्रिटिश म्यूजियम, न्यूयॉर्क के रुबिन म्यूजियम समेत कई प्रतिष्ठित जगहों पर रखी गई हैं। दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट पर भी उन्होंने दुनिया की सबसे लंबी म्यूरल बनाई है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

Noida airport unveils Paresh Maity artworks

VAISHALI DAR
New Delhi, May 26

OVER 8,500 BRASS bells shimmer within a towering 12.5-foot steel structure titled 'Mystic Abode', the first major artwork greeting travellers at the departure area of Noida International Airport (NIA), which is set to launch operations from June 15.

Created by Padma Shri awardee Paresh Maity, the installation was originally commissioned for the St Moritz Art Masters festival in the Swiss Alps in 2016, and has now been brought to India for permanent display at the airport. Evoking ideas of home,



Paresh Maity with his canvas titled Jagriti

GARNERATADW

refuge and spiritual calm, the immersive artwork reflects anxieties of contemporary life: urban fatigue, environmental

uncertainty and the search for inner peace, through the symbolism of bells.

"Walking through it feels

less like viewing art and more like entering a meditative pause," said Maity during an art walk at the airport on Tuesday.

"People today are searching for calm. We are passing through a volatile, unsafe environment all around. This structure is placed to give you peace and salvation, just like home. The bell sounds break negative, stagnant energies to bring positive energy," said the 61-year-old artist.

Airports worldwide are becoming experiential cultural zones rather than mere transit points. Sculptures, murals and interactive installations are reshaping travel spaces into

destinations in themselves, reducing stress while reflecting local identity and creativity.

"We are proud to have such wonderful Indian airports with both art and technology incorporated. Each artwork details can be accessed via a QR code, enabling passengers to access descriptions and context," added Maity.

Another of Maity's masterpieces at Noida airport, Jagriti (Awakening), is an 8x100-foot acrylic-on-canvas work spread across six panels. Conceptualised over two years, it draws upon the sadanga, the six classical limbs of Indian art aesthetics.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

26 MAY 2026

Airport staffer in gold haul

Mumbai: A 23-year-old coffee shop employee at CSMIA was arrested by Customs officials on Monday for gold smuggling. Ashish Yadav of Goregaon East was caught with 1,470 grams of 24K gold dust worth ₹2.15 crore hidden in a sock. He admitted receiving the gold from a transit passenger for ₹5,000. Customs officials warned that this modus operandi could be exploited for larger smuggling activities.

Corporate Communications Directorate

JANSATTA

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

पहल

पद्मश्री परेश मैती की कलाकृतियों से सजाया गया

जेवर हवाई अड्डे पर यूपी की सांस्कृतिक विरासत से रूबरू होंगे यात्री

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
ग्रेटर नोएडा, 26 मई।

जेवर स्थित अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के टर्मिनल को भारतीय कला, संस्कृति और आध्यात्मिक विरासत से जोड़ते हुए यात्रियों के लिए एक अनोखा अनुभव तैयार किया है।

यहां पर पद्मश्री से सम्मानित कलाकार परेश मैती की भव्य कलाकृतियां लगाई गई हैं, जो यूपी और भारत की सांस्कृतिक पहचान को आधुनिक रूप के साथ प्रस्तुत करेंगी। हवाई अड्डे का प्रारूप पश्चिमी यूपी की विरासत से प्रेरित है। इसमें लाल ग्रेनाइट का इस्तेमाल ऐतिहासिक स्मारकों की झलक देता है, जबकि बनारस के घाटों और पारंपरिक

पीतल की घंटियों से बनी कलाकृति बनी आकर्षण का केंद्र



और महाकुंभ जैसे प्रमुख धार्मिक और ऐतिहासिक स्थलों को चित्रित किया गया है।

हवाई अड्डे का सबसे खास आकर्षण आठ हजार से अधिक पीतल की घंटियों से तैयार कलाकृति है, जिसे परेश मैती ने तैयार किया है। घंटियों की ध्वनि भारतीय मंदिरों और घरों में सकारात्मक ऊर्जा का प्रतीक मानी जाती है। साथ ही यहां अनूठी चित्रकारी जागृति भी स्थापित की गई है। छह हिस्सों में बनी यह कलाकृति भारत की सांस्कृतिक और आध्यात्मिक विरासत को दर्शाती है। इसमें काशी के घाट, सारनाथ का स्तूप, आगरा का ताजमहल, मथुरा-वृंदावन का कुसुम सरोवर, अयोध्या

हवेलियों के आंगन की अवधारणा को भी साथ ही यहां प्राकृतिक रोशनी, खुला आंगन, टर्मिनल डिजाइन में शामिल किया गया है। ऊंची छतें और सहज नेविगेशन जैसी सुविधाएं

विकसित की गई हैं।

अफकाम होल्डिंग्स संभालेगी कार्गो संचालन

हवाई अड्डे पर मालवाहक हवाई उड़ान कंपनी अफकाम होल्डिंग्स कार्गो संचालन का काम देखेगी। हवाई अड्डे के हवाई कार्गो परिचालन के विस्तार के लिए कंपनी ने नायल के साथ एक साझेदारी की है। जिसके तहत अफकाम हवाई अड्डे पर अपना आधार बनाकर मालवाहक सेवाएं संचालित करेगी।

अफकाम के अलावा, टाटा समूह और सीट्स लिमिटेड का संयुक्त उपक्रम एआइएसएटीएस भी हवाई अड्डे पर मल्टी-माडल कार्गो केंद्र के संचालन और जमीनी सेवाओं का प्रबंधन कर रहा है।

THE PIONEER

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

Emergency evacuation conducted on IndiGo flight at Bengaluru airport

ASHOKE RAJ ■ New Delhi

A major mishap was averted at Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru after passengers onboard an IndiGo flight were evacuated following reports of smoke inside the aircraft during taxiing on Tuesday.

According to the airline, IndiGo flight 6E 6017 was scheduled to operate from Bengaluru to Chennai on 26 May 2026. The aircraft was taxiing toward the runway for departure when smoke was noticed inside the plane. Acting swiftly in the interest of passenger safety, the crew initiated an emergency evacuation procedure and informed all relevant airport and safety authorities.

The airline confirmed



that all passengers and crew members were evacuated safely and no injuries were reported during the incident.

Travelers were escorted back to the terminal, where IndiGo staff provided assis-

tance and ensured their well-being. In an official statement, the airline said, "On 26 May 2026, while IndiGo flight 6E 6017 from Bengaluru to Chennai was taxiing out to runway for departure, smoke was

noticed in the aircraft. In the interest of safety, an immediate evacuation was carried out and all the relevant authorities were informed."

The airline further stated that an alternate aircraft had been arranged to operate the flight and that refreshments were being served to passengers to ease the delay caused by the incident. Airport authorities and technical teams are expected to inspect the aircraft to determine the source of the smoke.

While the exact cause has not yet been disclosed, the timely response by the crew helped prevent any injuries or escalation of the situation. IndiGo reiterated that the safety and security of its passengers and crew remain its highest priority.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

26 MAY 2026

Airlines seek CM meet, call for airport upgrade

SANJAY MANDAL

Calcutta: Airline officials are seeking support from the "double-engine" state and central governments to improve efficiency at Calcutta airport and its surrounding infrastructure.

They said better airport efficiency is "essential" if Bengal aims to attract more investment and increase international connectivity, including more flights to Europe.

The Airline Operators Committee (AOC), a body that liaises between airlines, the Airports Authority of India, and regulatory agencies on flight operations, ground handling and infrastructure, has sought an appointment with chief minister Suwendu Adhikari.

Among the issues proposed for discussion are upgrading transit passenger facilities, improving self check-in and baggage-drop systems, improving work culture, removing touts, expanding hotels around the airport and ensuring smoother traffic movement in the vicinity.

Airlines will also request Suwendu to reduce the state's surcharge on aviation turbine fuel (ATF).

"We want to discuss some of the issues at Calcutta airport. We will request his intervention," said an AOC member.

Representatives of airlines had recently met Suwendu at the airport. "He assured us he would look into the develop-

ment of the airport. We have sought an appointment," the member said.

Transit facilities

According to airlines, facilities for transit fliers arriving in Calcutta and taking onward flights need improvement.

"There is no transfer baggage belt at Calcutta airport. At other airports, such belts move baggage from arriving flights to connecting departures," said an AOC member. "Here, transit passengers often have to carry their own luggage from arrival to departure levels."

In cases where passengers continue on the same airline, staff manually transfer baggage.

"This affects the minimum connecting time (MCT) at Calcutta airport," an airline official said. The average MCT here is around 60 minutes, compared to about 45 minutes at major Indian airports, impacting on-time performance, the official added.

Airlines also flagged inadequate signage for transit passengers. "Clear directions are needed to guide passengers to the fastest route to the departure area," an official said.

Self check-in

Airline officials said self

check-in and baggage-drop facilities exist at the airport but are largely non-functional in practice.

"We need more self-check-in kiosks to ease passenger flow. All major airports already have this," an airline official said.

They also stressed the need for functional baggage-drop counters for passengers who complete self check-in and need to deposit luggage, including payment for excess baggage at the counter.

"To make this work, more personnel are needed to assist passengers," an official said.

Tout control

Airlines said they would urge Suwendu to intervene against unionised practices that disrupt airport services, particularly in housekeeping and trolley management.

Passengers have long complained about unclean washrooms at the airport.

Although private agencies have been deployed, airline officials allege that some workers, reportedly backed by political groups, fail to perform duties, and enforcement action has been difficult in the past because of resistance and protests.

After the government

changed in the state, there have been some steps towards stricter enforcement, including termination of staff found not performing duties.

"We will also request action against taxi touts, which is a law-and-order issue," an airline official said.

Complaints of overcharging by touts have been recurring for passengers arriving in the city.

ATF surcharge

Airlines plan to raise the issue of high ATF surcharge at Calcutta airport. The Bengal government currently levies a 20% surcharge on ATF, they said.

"The Delhi government has reduced its surcharge from 26% to 7%. A similar reduction here would attract more airlines to Calcutta," an official said.

Hotels, traffic

Airline officials also spoke of the need to expand hotels in the airport vicinity.

"We would request the chief minister to facilitate at least two more hotels within the airport premises itself. That would benefit passengers," another airline official said.

Improving traffic flow on approach roads to the airport is another key demand, officials said. Congestion remains an issue, particularly during peak travel periods such as Durga Puja.





Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

26 MAY 2026

Air India Express damages runway lights in Muscat



Mumbai: An Air India Express aircraft has been grounded in Muscat for the past 10 days after it damaged runway edge lights during its takeoff roll. The Oman Transport Safety Bureau is investigating the incident involving the Boeing 737 aircraft. According to the Aviation Safety Network website, the incident took place on the night of May 15, when a Kannur-bound Air India Express aircraft incorrectly lined up for takeoff. The pilots commenced the takeoff roll and destroyed a number of edge lights in the process. "Following a loud bang and a master caution indication, the crew rejected takeoff and stopped on the runway. The aircraft became disabled with a hydraulic leak from the system and a flat tyre. Passengers and crew disembarked onto the runway," said the website. Air India Express said it is engaging with OTSB in investigating the incident. ANEESH PHADNIS



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

Smoke detected inside IndiGo flight in B'luru, passengers evacuated

Smoke was detected on board an IndiGo A320neo aircraft, just before it was set to take off from the Bengaluru airport to Chennai on Tuesday, prompting the airline to carry out an emergency evacuation before take-off. In a statement, IndiGo said the incident took place while the aircraft was taxiing towards the runway for departure from the Bengaluru airport. "Smoke was noticed in the aircraft. In the interest of safety, an immediate evacuation was carried out and all the relevant authorities were informed," an IndiGo spokesperson said. The airline said all passengers and crew members were safe and had been shifted to the terminal building, where airline teams were assisting them and ensuring their well-being.

BS REPORTER



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

Govt preparing interim report on A-I crash

REUTERS

New Delhi/ Montreal, 26 May

Indian officials investigating last year's deadly Air India (A-I) crash are preparing an interim report rather than a final one ahead of the anniversary of the Boeing 787 accident that killed 260 people, said a person with direct knowledge of the matter.

The interim report from India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will be "more comprehensive" than the preliminary report put out last July and will examine possible primary causes and other contributing factors, the person said.

The 15-page preliminary

report into the aviation industry's deadliest disaster in a decade showed the Dreamliner's engine fuel switches flipped almost simultaneously and starved the engines of fuel shortly after the flight from Ahmedabad to London took off on June 12, 2025.

By releasing an interim report, Indian authorities will not be required to share the findings ahead of time with the United States (US). National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which is participating in the investigation because the aircraft was designed and manufactured in the US. The NTSB would be allowed to comment on a final report.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

DGCA issues Ebola SOP for airlines, mandates passenger screening

SANKET KOUL
New Delhi, 26 May

India's aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has directed airlines to ensure that passengers travelling from or transiting through Ebola-stricken Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) mandatorily fill out self-declaration forms before disembarking, in a move aimed at preventing potential transmission of the disease.

The DGCA has also made it compulsory for airlines to broadcast specific health announcements during flights to help identify possible Ebola cases early and prevent the spread of the disease.

The move comes after the World Health Organization (WHO) classified the Ebola outbreak in DRC and Uganda as a public health emergency of international concern.

"Countries bordering the DRC and Uganda, including South Sudan have been assessed as being at a high risk of disease transmission," a DGCA office order dated May 22 stated.

According to its new standard operating procedures (SOPs), all passengers and crew members irrespective of nationality, will be required to fill out SDFs and submit them at designated immigration or health counters on arrival in India.

Passengers have been asked to immediately report symptoms such as fever, weakness, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, vomiting, rash or bleeding to airline crew members as well as immigration or medical authorities upon arrival.

The DGCA has also directed airlines to advise travellers that if Ebola-related symptoms develop within 21 days of arrival in India, they should immediately seek medical assistance at designated hospitals and inform airport health authorities.

Separately, all airlines operating in and around the regions facing Ebola outbreak have been asked to designate a single cabin crew member to exclusively care for the symptomatic patient, along with ensuring disinfection of the airplane after landing.



एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस के यात्रियों का हंगामा पटना फ्लाइट 7 घंटे लेट, चार घंटे विमान में बैठाने पर बवाल



भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की दिल्ली से पटना जाने वाली फ्लाइट IX-1510 मंगलवार को भारी अव्यवस्था और लंबी देरी के कारण विवादों में घिर गई। यात्रियों ने आरोप लगाया कि उन्हें लगभग चार घंटे तक विमान के अंदर बिना स्पष्ट जानकारी के बैठाए रखा गया, जबकि भीषण गर्मी में विमान का एसी भी ठीक से काम नहीं कर रहा था। इससे यात्रियों को घुटन जैसी स्थिति का सामना करना पड़ा और बाद में नाराज यात्रियों ने एयरपोर्ट पर जमकर हंगामा किया। जानकारी के अनुसार, फ्लाइट का निर्धारित समय सुबह 11:15 बजे था, लेकिन सुबह करीब 10:30 बजे ही बॉर्डिंग पूरी कर सभी यात्रियों को विमान में बैठा दिया गया। यात्रियों का कहना है कि इसके बाद घंटों तक विमान रनवे पर खड़ा रहा, लेकिन एयरलाइन की ओर से देरी का स्पष्ट कारण नहीं बताया गया। दोपहर लगभग 3:30 बजे अचानक सभी यात्रियों को विमान से नीचे उतार दिया गया। बाद में फ्लाइट को पुनर्निर्धारित कर शाम 6:10 बजे روانा करने की जानकारी दी गई।

यात्रियों का आरोप है कि एयरलाइन और एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन की ओर से गेट नंबर की स्पष्ट जानकारी नहीं दी गई। इसी फ्लाइट में सफर कर

यात्रियों ने एयरलाइन प्रबंधन के खिलाफ नारेबाजी की

कई यात्रियों ने क्रू स्टाफ के व्यवहार को भी असहयोगात्मक बताया। कुछ यात्रियों को 600 रुपये के फूड वाउचर दिए गए, लेकिन उनका कहना था कि एयरपोर्ट पर इतने पैसे में पर्याप्त भोजन मिलना मुश्किल है। एयरपोर्ट पर मौजूद यात्रियों ने एयरलाइन प्रबंधन के खिलाफ नारेबाजी करते हुए उचित व्यवस्था नहीं होने पर नाराजगी जताई। इस दौरान एसी भी बंद थे।

छे डॉक्टर मुजफ्फर ने बताया कि उनका हल ही में दिल्ली से पटना ट्रांसफर हुआ था और उन्हें उसी दिन नई जगह पर रिपोर्ट करना था, लेकिन फ्लाइट में अत्यधिक देरी के कारण वे समय पर जॉइन नहीं कर सके। शाम तक वे एयरपोर्ट पर उड़ान का इंतजार करते रहे। दिल्ली से पटना जाने वाली एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की एक उड़ान तकनीकी खराबी के कारण मंगलवार को विलंबित हो गई। एयरलाइन ने वैकल्पिक विमान की व्यवस्था कर यात्रियों को भोजन उपलब्ध कराया। साथ ही यात्रियों को टिकट रद्द कर पूर्ण धनवापसी या यात्रा पुनर्निर्धारित करने का विकल्प भी दिया गया।

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

हवाई सफर • दिल्ली-मुंबई में यात्री 5 साल से स्थिर, नॉन-मेट्रो रूट पर 8.2% की बढ़ी ग्रोथ छोटे और मझोले शहर एविएशन के नए ग्रोथ इंजन; मेट्रो में थम गई हवाई यात्रा की रफ्तार

भास्कर न्यूज़ | मुंबई

महानगरों में हवाई यात्रा की रफ्तार सुस्त पड़ रही है, जबकि छोटे और मझोले शहर अब नए ग्रोथ इंजन बन रहे हैं। वित्त वर्ष 2020 से 2025 के दौरान मेट्रो से मेट्रो रूट्स पर यात्री वृद्धि जीडीपी ग्रोथ से कमजोर रही। इस अवधि में इन रूट्स पर यात्री महज 0.8% सालाना कम्पाउंडेड ग्रोथ से बढ़े, जबकि वित्त वर्ष 2016-20 में ग्रोथ 8% थी। दिल्ली-मुंबई जैसे देश के सबसे व्यस्त कॉरिडोर पर पांच साल में लगभग शून्य वृद्धि दर्ज हुई। कोटक इंस्टीट्यूशनल इक्विटीज की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, मेट्रो से मेट्रो घरेलू यात्री संख्या वित्त वर्ष 2020 के 3.91 करोड़ से घटकर वित्त वर्ष 2026 में 3.88 करोड़ रह गई। इसके उलट, मेट्रो से नॉन मेट्रो यात्री इस दौरान 9.06 करोड़ से बढ़कर 11.19 करोड़ हो गई। वहीं नॉन-मेट्रो से नॉन मेट्रो रूट्स पर यात्री संख्या इसी अवधि में 1.04 करोड़ से बढ़कर 1.69 करोड़ पहुंच गई। यह सेगमेंट वित्त वर्ष 2020-25 के दौरान 8.2% सालाना कम्पाउंडेड ग्रोथ से बढ़ा और चुनौतीपूर्ण वित्त वर्ष 2026 में भी 8% सालाना वृद्धि दर्ज की।

मेट्रो में सुस्ती क्यों? विमानों की कमी, स्लॉट की किल्लत और 'वंदे भारत' का भी असर

एयरपोर्ट स्लॉट की किल्लत सबसे बड़ी वजह है। दिल्ली, मुंबई और कोलकाता के एयरपोर्ट क्षमता की सीमा पर काम कर रहे हैं। नई उड़ानें जोड़ने की गुंजाइश नहीं है।

वंदे भारत की सीधी टक्कर
चेन्नई-बेंगलुरु जैसे छोटी दूरी के मेट्रो रूट्स पर फॉस्ट ट्रेनों ने हवाई यात्रियों की संख्या कम की।

कॉरपोरेट ट्रेवल का सिकुड़ना
कोविड बाद वचुअल मीटिंग का चलन स्थायी हो गया। कोविड बाद बिजनेस ट्रेवल की पूरी तरह वापसी नहीं हुई।

विमानों की कमी
एयरलाइंस के पास एयरक्राफ्ट सीमित हैं, जो विमान हैं वे ज्यादा मुनाफे वाले नॉन-मेट्रो रूट्स पर लगाए जा रहे हैं।



इंडिगो नॉन मेट्रो रूट्स पर भी सबसे आगे

इंडिगो ने इस बदलाव को पहचाना और छोटे शहरों पर दांव लगाया। नॉन-मेट्रो रूट्स पर हिस्सेदारी 67% तक पहुंच गई है। बाकी उड़ानें घटा रही हैं, इंडिगो की क्षमता स्थिर है। मेट्रो रूट्स में भी हिस्सेदारी 50.5% से बढ़कर 52.9% हुई।

आगे क्या? नवी मुंबई और जेवर जैसे एयरपोर्ट पलट सकते हैं ट्रेंड
नवी मुंबई और नोएडा जेवर एयरपोर्ट के चालू होने से दिल्ली-मुंबई में पीक-ऑवर स्लॉट खुलेंगे। वित्त वर्ष 2027-28 से प्रमुख एयरलाइंस को नए विमान मिलने शुरू होंगे। अनुमान है कि अगले 10 साल में हवाई यात्री संख्या में सालाना 10% की वृद्धि होगी, जो जीडीपी का करीब 1.5 गुना होगा।

10 वर्ष में 37 लाख से 1.69 करोड़ पहुंचे छोटे शहरों के हवाई यात्री

वित्त वर्ष	मेट्रो-से-मेट्रो	मेट्रो-से-नॉन-मेट्रो	नॉन-मेट्रो-से-नॉन-मेट्रो
2016	2.87 करोड़	5.20 करोड़	37 लाख
2020	3.91 करोड़	9.06 करोड़	1.04 करोड़
2025	4.07 करोड़	10.91 करोड़	1.55 करोड़
2026	3.88 करोड़	11.19 करोड़	1.69 करोड़

• गैर-मेट्रो की मांग अब दक्षिण और पश्चिम भारत से सबसे तेजी से निकल रही है। बेंगलुरु और हैदराबाद नए एविएशन ग्रोथ हब बनकर उभरे हैं, जहां एयरपोर्ट क्षमता बढ़ने का सीधा फायदा ट्रैफिक में दिखा।

मेट्रो से मेट्रो: बेंगलुरु-कोलकाता रूट में सबसे ज्यादा बढ़ रहे हैं यात्री

सबसे तेज ग्रोथ वाले 5 मेट्रो रूट्स

(वित्त वर्ष 2020-25 सालाना ग्रोथ के आधार पर)

रूट	FY2020-25 ग्रोथ
बेंगलुरु-कोलकाता	5.1%
बेंगलुरु-हैदराबाद	2.8%
हैदराबाद-कोलकाता	2.6%
हैदराबाद-दिल्ली	2.3%
बेंगलुरु-चेन्नई	2.1%

• दक्षिण भारत के टेक और बिजनेस कॉरिडोर अब भी ग्रोथ चला रहे हैं। बेंगलुरु और हैदराबाद से जुड़े रूट्स में कॉरपोरेट, स्टार्टअप और आईटी ट्रेवल की मांग मजबूत बनी हुई है।

सबसे कमजोर/घटते 5 मेट्रो रूट्स

(वित्त वर्ष 2020-25 सालाना ग्रोथ के आधार पर)

रूट	वित्त वर्ष 2020-25 ग्रोथ
कोलकाता-चेन्नई	-5.0%
दिल्ली-कोलकाता	-2.8%
चेन्नई-मुंबई	-0.3%
दिल्ली-मुंबई	0.0%
हैदराबाद-मुंबई	0.3%

• दिल्ली-मुंबई जैसे देश के व्यस्त कॉरपोरेट कॉरिडोर पर भी यात्री संख्या लगभग स्थिर है। स्लॉट की कमी, वचुअल मीटिंग्स और कुछ सेक्टरों में रेल प्रतिस्पर्धा का असर दिख रहा है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

इंडिगो के विमान में धुआं, यात्रियों को सुरक्षित निकाला

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : बेंगलुरु हवाईअड्डे पर मंगलवार शाम इंडिगो के विमान के कैबिन और काकपिट में धुआं दिखने के बाद विमान को खाली कराया गया। विमान में 230 यात्री सवार थे। अफरातफरी में दो यात्री घायल हो गए। डीजीसीए इस घटना की जांच कर रहा है और विमान को निरीक्षण के लिए रोक दिया गया है।

इंडिगो एयरलाइंस ने बयान में कहा कि सभी यात्री और कर्मचारी सुरक्षित हैं। इंडिगो एयरलाइंस ने कहा, 26 मई को बेंगलुरु से चेन्नई जाने वाला इंडिगो की डट्रान 6017 रनवे की ओर बढ़ रही थी तभी विमान में धुआं देखा गया। डीजीसीए ने कहा कि ए321 विमान बीटी-अड्डाई से यात्रियों को आपातकालीन स्थिति में सुरक्षित निकाला गया। वैकल्पिक विमान की व्यवस्था की गई है।

A Year After Air India Plane Crash, AAIB May Publish Interim Report

Arindam Majumder

New Delhi: The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is likely to publish an interim report next month on the investigation into the June 2025 Air India aircraft crash in Ahmedabad that killed 260 people, said people familiar with the matter.

The bureau needs more time to prepare the final report, which requires consultations with stakeholders including Air India, Boeing and other investigative agencies like the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), said one of the persons.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) recommends that the state conducting the investigation publish a report within a year, but if it is not possible to do so, it should release an interim statement annually, on each anniversary of the occurrence, detailing the progress of the investigation and any safety issues raised.

Fifty-three British nationals died in the crash, prompting the UK's accident investigator to become part of the case while the NTSB of the US is assisting as both the aircraft maker Boeing and engine manufacturer General Electric are American companies.

As per the ICAO's rule, the state conducting the investigation has to send the final report to the stakeholders and wait for 60 days for their comments.

That process has not yet started, the person said, adding that the

In Due Time

ICAO'S STANCE

Recommends the state conducting the investigation publish a report within a year

Or it should release an interim statement annually, on each anniversary of the occurrence



State conducting the investigation has to send the final report to the stakeholders and wait for 60 days for their comments

*International Civil Aviation Organisation

interim report would be detailed and establish a lot of facts on the accident.

AAIB director general GVG Yugandhar did not respond to queries on the matter.

The preliminary report presented by the AAIB, tasked with probing the aircraft crash, said that seconds after take-off, the fuel control switches of both engines briefly moved from 'run' to 'cut off', shutting off fuel supply and causing a loss of power.

The AAIB hasn't issued any directions for Boeing or GE which indicates that it hasn't found any critical issues with the equipment, said people in the know.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

Improper Maintenance Likely Reason Behind Air India Aircraft Engine Fire

New Delhi: Initial investigation by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has linked improper maintenance to an engine fire that forced the emergency landing of an Air India aircraft last week. A nozzle replacement was carried out 1-2 days prior to the incident. Investigators suspect that following the replacement, some of the nuts were insufficiently tightened, triggering fuel leakage and fire. Last week, an Airbus A320 aircraft on a scheduled flight from Bengaluru to Delhi, with 160 passengers on board declared Mayday, and made an emergency landing at Delhi airport. The pilots had received a fire indication from one of the engines, which was confirmed as true. The

civil aviation regulator is yet to conclude its probe, but the preliminary findings have raised alarm on whether there have been similar instances where such lapses have occurred. As a precaution, DGCA has asked Air India to carry out checks on all planes whose nozzles were replaced.



"When fuel leaks into hot engine components, it will automatically cause fire," said an aircraft maintenance engineer. A senior executive at Air India Engineering Services accepted improper workmanship as the likely factor for the fire but insisted that technicians from either the third party firm or those retired are qualified enough for the work. —Arindam Majumder

H'bad's BluJ Rolls out e-Aircraft Prototype

Looks to build cargo, industrial logistics use cases ahead of planned commercial deployment in '27

Shilpa Ranipeta

Hyderabad: Deep-tech aviation startup BluJ Aerospace on Tuesday unveiled the second-generation prototype of its heavy-payload electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft. The Hyderabad-based company aims to develop cargo and industrial logistics use-cases ahead of commercial deployment targeted for 2027.

Founded in 2022 by former Skyroot Aerospace founding team member Amar Sri Vatsavaya and Utham Kumar Dharmapuri, the company is focusing on sectors such as power transmission, mining, infrastructure and defence logistics, where transporting equipment and supplies to remote terrain remains expensive and time-consuming.

The company said the newly

unveiled 'Gen-2' aircraft is designed to move closer to certification standards and commercial testing.



Firm's Gen-2 prototype is currently undergoing 'transition flight' testing

Earlier this year, BluJ had demonstrated a flight of a 500-kg-class eVTOL aircraft, the first Indian entity to have publicly done so. The latest version is being developed to carry payloads of up to 200 kg. The company is the only Indian startup to have publicly demonstrated a flight of a 500-kg-class eVTOL aircraft. Dharmapuri said the Gen-2 prototype is currently undergoing "transition flight" testing, a key stage in eVTOL development where the aircraft transitions from vertical take-off into forward flight like a conventional aircraft.



IMAGING VASU

India readies interim AI crash probe report

ABHIJITH GANAPAVARAM
& ALLISON LAMPERT
New Delhi/Montreal, May 26

INDIAN OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING last year's deadly Air India crash are preparing an interim report rather than a final one ahead of the anniversary of the Boeing 787 accident that killed 260 people, said a person with direct knowledge of the matter.

The interim report from India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will be "more comprehensive" than the preliminary report put out last July and will examine possible primary causes and other contributing factors, the person said.

The 15-page preliminary report into the aviation industry's deadliest disaster in a decade showed the Dreamliner's engine fuel switches flipped almost simultaneously and starved the engines of fuel shortly after the flight from Ahmedabad to London took off on June 12, 2025.

A cockpit recording of dialogue between the two pilots supported the view that the captain cut the flow of fuel to the plane's engines, according to US officials' early assessment reported by Reuters last year. The AAIB said at the time it was "too early to reach any definite conclusions".

By releasing an interim report, Indian authorities will not be required to share the findings ahead of time with the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which is participating in the investigation because the air-



A 15-page report said that Dreamliner fuel switches flipped, starving engines of fuel shortly after the Ahmedabad-London flight took off on June 12, 2025

craft was designed and manufactured in the United States. The NTSB would be allowed to comment on a final report, which could also provide more closure for the crash victims' family members.

The final report will not be ready by the crash anniversary because "it is a very complex investigation and is taking time," said the person, adding the interim report still needed to be submitted to government authorities and the timing of a final report remained unclear.

A second source with knowledge of the matter also said investigators were still working on the probe and needed more time. Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity as the internal workings of the investigation are private.

Under international rules, a final report is due within a year of an accident but sometimes

investigations take longer, so if that is not completed, an interim statement should be issued on each anniversary.

The AAIB, India's civil aviation ministry and Air India did not respond to emails seeking comment. AAIB chief GVG Yugandhar also did not respond to calls and messages seeking comment.

The UN aviation agency, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), sets out a consultation process with participating states for draft final reports, with a usual 30-day comment period extendable to 60 days. The same process does not apply to interim statements.

Montreal-based ICAO and the US NTSB, which is supporting the probe, declined to comment. Boeing, which is a technical adviser to the investigation, referred Reuters to the AAIB for comment. —REUTERS



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

मनमानी: हवाई टिकट रद्द होने पर 15 गुना तक शुल्क वसूली



विशेष

■ अरुण चट्टा

नई दिल्ली। अगर आप हवाई सफर के लिए थर्ड-पार्टी ऐप से टिकट बुक करते हैं तो सावधान हो जाइए। टिकट रद्द होने पर आपकी जेब में आने वाला कम रिफंड एयरलाइंस नहीं बल्कि ये ट्रेवल ऐप डकार रहे हैं।

विमानन कंपनी से पूरा पैसा वापस मिलने पर भी ये ऐप ग्राहकों का पैसा दबाकर उससे अपना दूसरा कारोबार चमका रहे हैं और दबाव बनाने पर 15 गुना तक शुल्क काट रही हैं। केंद्र ने इस की जांच शुरू कर दी है, जिसके दायरे में ऐसी सभी ऐप हैं। सुत्रों के मुताबिक, अभी ऐसे 150 मामलों की जांच हुई है।

ऐसी शिकायतों पर जांच : एक ग्राहक ने शिकायत की है कि एक ट्रेवल ऐप ने 4764 रुपये का रद्दीकरण शुल्क

यहां करें शिकायत

- मानन कंपनी तय समय पर रिफंड नहीं देती है तो एयरसेवा पोर्टल या उसके मोबाइल ऐप पर शिकायत करें।
- हेल्पलाइन नंबर 1915 पर कॉल या फिर 8800001915 पर व्हाट्सऐप भी कर सकते हैं।

काटा जबकि विमानन कंपनी ने टिकट रद्द करने के लिए 299 रुपये शुल्क वसूला था। वहीं, 'एक्स' पर एक अन्य यात्री सुमित कुमार ने बताया कि उन्होंने फ्लिपकार्ट ऐप से अकासा एयर का ₹6,040 का टिकट बुक किया था। टिकट रद्द होने पर अकासा एयर ने ₹3,999 काटकर ₹2,041 का रिफंड फ्लिपकार्ट को दे दिया, मगर फ्लिपकार्ट ने सुमित को महज ₹888 लौटाए। आम शिकायत है कि ये ऐप एक से डेढ़ महीने

क्या है डीजीसीए के नियम

1. टिकट बुकिंग के 24 से 48 घंटे में बिना अतिरिक्त शुल्क के टिकट कैसिल या संशोधित कर सकते हैं।
2. बुकिंग के 24 घंटे में नाम की गलती सुधारने के लिए चार्ज नहीं लगता।
3. बेस किराए, फ्यूल सरचार्ज से ज्यादा कैसिलेशन शुल्क नहीं ले सकते।

तक बहाने बनाकर रिफंड नहीं करते। रिफंड देते भी हैं तो भारी शुल्क काटते हैं और इसका कारण भी नहीं बताते हैं।

इंडियन चैंबर एविएशन एंड टूरिज्म एक्सपर्ट कमेटी के चेयरमैन सुभाष गोयल ने बताया कि टिकट रद्द होने पर विमानन कंपनियां जितनी धनराशि लौटाती हैं, उसके अतिरिक्त पोर्टल कुछ न्यूनतम चार्ज लगा सकते हैं, मगर वह तय नियमों के दायरे में होना चाहिए।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

विमान के भीतर धुआं निकलने से हड़कंप

बेंगलुरु। इंडिगो के बेंगलुरु से चेन्नई जा रहे विमान में मंगलवार को उड़ान से पहले धुआं दिखाई देने पर हड़कंप मच गया। इसके बाद यात्रियों को सुरक्षित बाहर निकाल लिया गया।

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

26 MAY 2026

Mum-Ahmedabad SpiceJet flight delayed for five hours due to operational issue

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Passengers of an Ahmedabad-bound SpiceJet flight were stranded at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) for over five hours on Monday after an operational issue delayed the flight, with several flyers alleging poor communication from the airline staff.

Flight SG 880, scheduled to depart Mumbai at 4.35 pm, eventually took off at 9.43 pm and landed in Ahmedabad at 10.32 pm, according to Flightradar24. The same flight had faced an even longer delay on Sunday, departing Mumbai only at 11.24 pm and reaching Ahmedabad at 12.13 am on Monday, according to flight-tracking data.

Vishnu Deo Mahto, 34, an engineer travelling to Ahmedabad for work, said the flight was repeatedly delayed despite repeated assurances from air-



A video of passengers arguing with SpiceJet staff was shared on social media.

line staff that it would depart shortly.

"Every time we were told it would take another half an



The disruption originated with an earlier flight and carried through the day's schedule

SPICEJET SPOKESPERSON

hour, but it never happened," Mahto told Hindustan Times. "I have to go to work in Ahmedabad tomorrow morning at 8 am. I have had no food, and meals are not included in my package, so I will have to stay hungry. I also have a fractured hand. How will a person just sit like this in such a situation?"

A woman passenger, who did not wish to be named, said, "I was rushing for a family emergency, hoping to reach in time, but now I feel taking a taxi would have been better."

Another passenger, Premal-

kiran Gandhi, said flyers had been waiting for hours and that boarding was allowed only after they argued with SpiceJet ground staff. According to him, the boarding gate finally opened at 8.30 pm.

A SpiceJet spokesperson attributed the delay to an operational issue, saying the disruption originated with an earlier flight and carried through the day's schedule.

The spokesperson also said the airline had informed passengers about the delay through emails and phone calls at 6 am on Monday, but acknowledged that some travellers may not have received the communication.

"Bookings made through aggregators, third-party platforms and group booking PNRs often carry intermediary contact details instead of those of individual passengers, due to which information doesn't reach the passenger," the spokesperson said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

AAIB prepares interim report as Air India crash anniversary nears

Reuters

New Delhi/Montreal, May 26

INDIAN OFFICIALS investigating last year's deadly Air India crash are preparing an interim report rather than a final one ahead of the anniversary of the Boeing 787 accident that killed 260 people, said a person with direct knowledge of the matter.

The interim report from India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will be "more comprehensive" than the preliminary report put out last July and will examine possible primary causes and other contributing factors, the person said. The 15-page preliminary report into the aviation industry's deadliest disaster in a dec-

ade showed the Dreamliner's engine fuel switches flipped almost simultaneously and starved the engines of fuel shortly after the flight from Ahmedabad to London took off on June 12, 2025.

A cockpit recording of dialogue between the two pilots supported the view that the captain cut the flow of fuel to the plane's engines, according to US officials' early assessment reported by *Reuters* last year.

The AAIB said at the time it was "too early to reach any definite conclusions".

By releasing an interim report, Indian authorities will not be required to share the findings ahead of time with the US National Transportation Safety

Board (NTSB), which is participating in the investigation because the aircraft was designed and manufactured in the United States.

The NTSB would be allowed to comment on a final report, which could also provide more closure for the crash victims' family members.

A second source with knowledge of the matter also said investigators were still working on the probe and needed more time. Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity as the internal workings of the investigation are private.

Under international rules, a final report is due within a year of an accident.

CAN INDIAN AIRLINES TURN EAST AMID WAR?

BY HOWINDIALIVES.COM

India's heavy reliance on West Asian flight corridors severely dented traffic numbers for Indian airlines and airports in March—the latest month for which data is available. The US attack on Iran on 28 February, followed by Tehran's retaliation, altered the operating environment for the aviation industry in ways few events have before. The conflict has hit fuel prices—the industry's main cost. It has also disrupted flight paths and increased operational complexity. From looking at a year of profitability, airlines are now focused on managing losses while hoping for an end to hostilities and a return to business as usual. At the same time, the Southeast Asia corridor has emerged as a highly resilient alternative, but still far from matching the Gulf's scale.

Smaller airports saw a greater pullback in international air traffic in March

Year-on-year change in number of international flights in March 2026 (in %)



Data shows international airports that recorded more than 1,000 international flights in March 2025, arranged in descending order of change
Source: Airports Authority of India

SIZE MATTERS

INDIAN AIRPORTS recorded 21% fewer international flights in March 2026 than in March 2025. Of the 37 international airports that registered flights in March 2025, 31 saw a decline in March 2026.

The data shows a stark contrast between major metro hubs and smaller regional airports. Kolkatta recorded a marginal growth of 0.9%, and Delhi and Bengaluru saw falls of 3.4% and 8%, respectively.

But the bigger damage was in smaller airports, especially in Kerala. Kozhikode saw 54% fewer flights, Thiruvananthapuram 43% and Kochi 42%.

Due to its large migrant diaspora, Kerala's international traffic flows heavily through the Gulf corridor. The airspace closure forced aircraft to fly longer routes.

Coupled with skyrocketing jet fuel prices, operating costs on these routes became financially unsustainable, causing airlines to aggressively consolidated capacities or cut back operations at smaller, regional airports.

STAYING GROUNDED

IN THE context of the impact of the US-Iran war on international aviation, March was the worst month. Data indicates severe operational shocks as the five Indian carriers that operate international flights made sweeping route closures and capacity cutbacks.

The Air India Group temporarily suspended regular scheduled flights to major Gulf destinations, shifting instead to restricted ad-hoc operations. The pain has persisted. Earlier this month, Air India also reduced frequency on select international routes across regions for June-August, citing the impact on the "commercial viability of certain planned services".

Both Air India and its low-cost arm Air India Express were grappling with a drop in passenger traffic even in January and February. March made it worse. IndiGo, the leader in the Indian international segment, registered solid growth numbers in January and February. But in March, its international traffic dropped 37%. Akasa's numbers benefited from a low base.

The two Air India carriers were recording negative growth even before March

Year-on-year change (in %) in international passengers



Airlines arranged in descending order of international passengers carried in Jan-Mar 2026
Source: Directorate General of Civil Aviation

In March, West Asia was the only region to post negative growth in distance flown

Performance of international aviation RPK*, by geography



*Revenue passenger km (RPK) is calculated by multiplying the number of passengers by the distance travelled by them. **Share in RPK in 2025
Source: International Air Transport Association

GLOBAL RESILIENCE

WHILE THE four leading Indian airlines reported 19% to 66% declines in international passenger traffic, the global aviation industry showed greater resilience.

Globally, capacity on international routes fell 6.2% in March. Revenue per passenger km (RPK)—calculated as the number of passengers multiplied by the distance travelled by them—fell only 0.6% in March 2026 compared to March 2025.

The breakdown of this number by the six main regions explains the war's deep impact. West Asia, which accounted for 15% of global RPK in 2025, bore the brunt of the crisis, suffering a 61% drop in RPK in March 2026. The other five global regions showed resilience. Africa led global growth (at 19.2%), followed by Latin America (12.1%). Asia-Pacific and Europe, which accounted for two-thirds of global international RPK, both posted decent gains. Two months later, the situation remains constrained as airlines work on alternate routes and fuel remains costly.

VIALE ALTERNATIVE?

THE ONE region that saw a 61% drop in RPK in March—West Asia—is also the region that accounted for half of India's international passenger traffic in the March 2025 quarter. In January-March 2026, the UAE was the biggest country in India's international aviation segment, accounting for about 5 million passengers, or a share of 26%. Thailand was next, but with only about 1.6 million passengers.

Amid the West Asia conflict, the Southeast Asia corridor has emerged as a highly resilient alternative, remaining completely insulated from the war. Five of the top six countries for India by passengers recorded growth in the March 2026 quarter, led by Vietnam (up 68% year-on-year). Even Thailand grew 26% on a large base.

Even as leisure travellers increasingly look east, any significant pivot by Indian airlines will take time, given the scale of Gulf traffic. The UAE alone handles more passenger traffic than the top six Southeast Asian countries combined.

Southeast Asia is a growing market for Indian aviation, but on a much smaller base

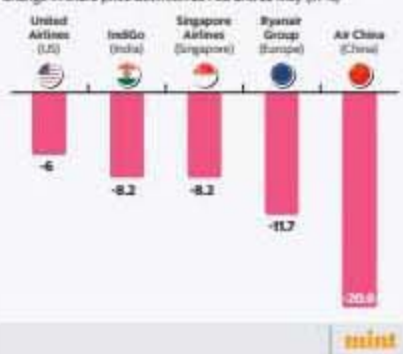
International passengers carried by Indian airlines, Jan-Mar 2026



Countries arranged in negative net in descending order of passengers
Source: Directorate General of Civil Aviation

India's leading airline saw smaller share price decline compared to global peers

Change in share price between 28 Feb and 22 May (in %)



PROFIT TO PERIL

SINCE 28 February, when the US attacked Iran, Brent crude has increased from \$70 to a high of \$118 a barrel. Fuel accounts for 30-40% of an airline's total costs, so airfares have increased. Aviation research site OAG said average base global airfares for the week starting 18 April were about 10% higher than in 2025. In December 2025, International Air Transport Association projected industry revenues would cross \$1 trillion for the first time, with a record \$41-billion net profit. Those projections now appear shaky. Shares of most major airlines globally, including IndiGo, are down up to 10% since the start of the war, trailing their respective benchmarks, although not by huge amounts. The reading is that a truce is expected to come through, oil prices will recede to levels profitable for airlines, fares will fall, and people will want to fly again in numbers. For global aviation, much hinges on a lasting truce.
www.howindialives.com is a database and search engine for public data

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

27 MAY 2026

AI and IndiGo to cut domestic flights amid high fuel prices due to Iran war

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

INDIA'S leading airlines Air India and IndiGo, which control over 90 per cent of the domestic aviation market share, have decided to cut down their domestic operations beginning June 1 for a period of three months. The spike in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) cost following the commencement of the US-Iran war and the lean months following the school vacations are the reasons cited for the move by multiple sources.

Air India will reduce domestic operations by up to 15 per cent, while IndiGo will cut them by a maximum of seven per cent. Air India had recently announced a reduction in its international flight operations too. The ATF cost accounts for nearly 40 per cent of an airline's operational cost.

A top source in Air India said, "We operate an average of 3,800 flights per week. The ATF cost for our domestic flights used to be ₹80,000 per kilo litre. It has shot up to ₹1,00,000 and above depending on the city in India, since the VAT imposed by the state governments vary. It will not be financially viable to operate when the ATF cost is so high." On May 17, the Delhi government had announced slashing of VAT on ATF to seven per cent from 25 per cent.

The source added, "We will not remove any route, but will



Reductions up to 15%

Air India will reduce domestic operations by up to 15 per cent, while IndiGo will cut them by a maximum of seven per cent. Air India had recently announced a reduction in its international flight operations too.

only reduce the number of flights operated in one particular sector. There is a long list that we plan to reduce." Among the flights to be axed are those from Mumbai towards Ahmedabad, Nagpur, Patna and Bhopal. From Delhi, the number of flights operated towards Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Kolkata will be cut, the source said.

"While a major chunk will be reduced from Mumbai and Delhi airports, the southern region too will be impacted as the return flights in the direction too get cancelled," he added.

Another reason for the cancellation is the slash in international flight operations. "Due to

the reduced international network presently, the passengers who used to take domestic flights from different cities to reach, say Delhi or Mumbai, too will go down. The expected reduced patronage too is a reason for the decision to cut number of flights, he said.

"We will not be operating the flights from June 1 till August end. The flights have already been removed from the website, so that passengers should not book them," the source added.

IndiGo, meanwhile, said that it would reduce anywhere between five to seven per cent of its domestic operations. "Historically, the months after the academic vacations have poor flight occupancy. Due to the less demand expected, we will be scaling down our operations from June 1. IndiGo operates 1,950 flights per day. So, even cutting our operations by a small amount would result in a huge number of flights getting reduced," said a source.

To help the bleeding aviation industry, on April 1, 2026, the Centre had capped the increase in ATF price for domestic operators to 25 per cent in order to cushion the blow caused by the international turmoil. It had also reduced the parking fee and introduced an Emergency Credit Scheme for airlines.

EXPRESS
CLUSIVE

ATF prices lead AI to pare flights for Vadodara, Rajkot

Prashant Rupera &
Nimesh Khakhariya | TNN

Vadodara: Rising aviation turbine fuel prices have prompted Air India to scale back flights across Gujarat, with Vadodara set to lose two Delhi services over June and July and Rajkot facing the suspension of its Delhi and Mumbai flights in June, tightening air connectivity during the monsoon travel season.

As part of its rationalization of flight operations amid higher fuel and operating costs, Air India has decided to discontinue two services on the Delhi-Vadodara sector. According to the revised schedu-



le, flight AI-2866/2867 will remain cancelled from June 1 to July 31, 2026.

In addition, Air India's AI-1701/1808 service on the same route will be suspended from July 1 to July 31, 2026.

The decision means Vadodara will lose two Air India-operated Delhi flights during this period, leaving passen-

gers increasingly dependent on IndiGo services for direct connectivity with the capital.

Under the daily schedule effective from May 1 to May 31, 2026, Vadodara airport handled multiple domestic connections, mainly operated by IndiGo and Air India. AI-1701/1808 operated in the morning slot, arriving from Delhi at 7.30am and departing at 8.00am daily. AI-2866/2867 ran in the evening slot on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, arriving at 4.25pm and departing at 5.40pm.

Aviation sources said the cancellations would affect business travellers and frequent

flyers, with the airline reviewing route profitability and aircraft deployment amid rising fuel expenditure.

Vadodara will, however, continue to be connected to Delhi through several IndiGo services — 6E-6220/6221, 6E-990/2082 and 6E-5014/0557 — along with Air India's remaining AI-2881/2882 flight. The city also has air links with Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad and Bengaluru through IndiGo-operated services.

The cutbacks mirror similar action in Rajkot, where Air India will suspend its daily morning Rajkot-Delhi flight and evening Rajkot-Mumbai flight for the whole of June.



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THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

26 MAY 2026

Fight in flight delays Malaysia-bound AirAsia for an hour

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Chennai: An AirAsia flight from Chennai to Kuala Lumpur was delayed by nearly one-and-a-half hours after two drunk passengers quarrelled inside the aircraft late on Sunday night.

The passengers were later deboarded, arrested and handed over to the Chennai airport police for inquiry. According to airport sources, the AirAsia flight, carrying 186 passengers and 10 crew members, was preparing for departure around 11.45pm when the two passengers began arguing loudly inside the cabin. The altercation escalated into a physical fight, triggering panic among fellow passengers.

Since cabin crew could not control the passengers, the pilot informed the Chennai airport control room and sought immediate security assistance. Airport security personnel forcibly removed the two passengers. Their journey was cancelled and their baggage offloaded.

The flight departed for Kuala Lumpur around 1.10 am on Monday with 184 passengers on board. Police said preliminary inquiry revealed that the two men had moved to Malaysia several years ago, settled there permanently and obtained Malaysian citizenship. They had recently travelled to Tamil Nadu to attend a relative's wedding and were returning to Malaysia when the incident took place.



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DELHI

27 MAY 2026

230 evacuated using slides as smoke fills IndiGo aircraft

New Delhi: More than 230 people aboard an IndiGo Airbus A321neo had to be evacuated using emergency slides in Bengaluru on Tuesday after smoke was spotted in the cabin while the aircraft was taxiing to take off for Chennai. Two passengers suffered minor injuries, the aviation ministry stated, adding DGCA was investigating the scare.

"IndiGo A321 while operating flight 6E-6017 was involved in emergency evacuation of passengers as smoke was reported in cabin/cockpit. After pushback, when taxi was commenced, smoke was observed in cockpit and cabin. Crew carried emergency evacuation of passengers using all escape slides. The aircraft has been grounded for inspection/rectification," the ministry said.

"On May 26, 2026, while IndiGo flight 6E 6017 from Bengaluru to Chennai was taxiing out to runway for departure, smoke was noticed in the aircraft. In the interest of safety, an immediate evacuation was carried out and all the relevant authorities were informed. All customers and crew are safe and have been moved to the terminal," IndiGo said in a statement.

"An alternate aircraft has been arranged to operate the flight and refreshments were served to the customers to ease their wait time," an IndiGo spokesperson said.

This was the second emergency evacuation IndiGo had to carry out this month. On May 5, everyone on an IndiGo Hyderabad-Chandigarh flight was evacuated at the destination using slides after a personal electronic device caught fire. ¹⁴⁸