

Kolkata airport resumes flight ops

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA: Flight operations at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) airport, Kolkata, resumed at 8 am on Friday following the completion of the landfall of Cyclone 'Dana' in Odisha.

An official of Airport Authority of India (AAI), Eastern Region, confirmed that the first flight, an IndiGo flight from Kolkata-Imphal, departed from Kolkata at 8.40 am. The first flight to land at Kolkata airport was of Vistara. It landed at around 8.45 am from Delhi, the AAI spokesperson said.

Kolkata Airport, wrote the following on its X handle: "Flight operations resumed at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata at 08:00 hrs, after it was closed for flight operation yesterday in view of the cyclone Dana."

The authorities of the NSCBI airport suspended flight operations from Thursday evening as a precautionary measure against Cyclone 'Dana'.

The airport was supposed to shut down operations at 6 pm on Thursday and resume operations from 9 am on Friday. Due to favourable weather conditions on Friday morning, flight operations resumed from 8 am, sources at the airport said.

"On Thursday, IndiGo's Amritsar-Kolkata flight was the last one to arrive here and it landed at 6.11 pm.

The last flight departed to Guwahati at 7 pm," Kolkata airport director Pravat Ranjan Beuria told the media. There were no reports of inundation in the operational area so services resumed, the AAI spokesperson said. There were no reports of any damage due to the cyclone so far, he added.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

STATESMAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

AAI SIGNS MOU WITH DRIIV



Airports Authority of India and DRIIV (Delhi Research Implementation and Innovation) signed a pivotal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 24 October at Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, marking a ground-breaking collaboration aimed at fostering innovation, enhancing operational safety, and supporting sustainable growth within the Indian aviation sector. The MoU was signed by Shyamli Haldar, ED (ATM), AAI & Shipra Mishra, CEO & MD, DRIIV.

Pawfect buddies are back at Mumbai airport to bust travel stress

Nine-dog team to be stationed at Terminal 2



SPREADING JOY. Golden Retriever Bella, interacting with passengers MIAL

Anupama Ghosh

Mumbai

Mumbai International Airport (MIAL) has reintroduced its 'Pawfect' programme at Terminal 2 to give emotional support to travellers, airport officials announced.

MIAL is the only airport in the country offering such a service.

The initiative features nine trained dogs including a Golden Retriever, a Maltese, a rescued Husky, Shih Tzu, Lhasa Apso, and Labrador.

The canine team will be stationed at Terminal 2's departure area, including domestic level 3 and post-immigration sections, from Friday to Sunday between 1 pm and 3 pm.

The programme, which was popular before being suspended during the pandemic, aims to reduce travel anxiety and

enhance passenger experience at the airport. Among the support dogs is Bella, a Golden Retriever specifically trained to interact with children with special needs.

TRAINED TO RESPOND TO MOODS

MIAL, managed by Adani Airport Holdings (AAHL), implemented this programme recognising that air travel can be stressful for many passengers.

The dogs are trained to sense and respond to travellers' moods, providing comfort and creating a more relaxed airport environment.

The airport's management expects the programme to facilitate social interactions among travellers, with passengers often sharing stories about their own pets while waiting for flights. The service is complimentary and available to all passengers travelling through Terminal 2 during the designated hours.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

26 OCTOBER 2024

AP BEEFS UP SECURITY AT AIRPORTS

DC CORRESPONDENTS

VIJAYAWADA, TIRUPATI,
VIZAG, OCT. 25

A host of bomb threats to several airlines since Thursday proved to be a hoax, but security has been beefed up at the airports as a precautionary measure, officials said on Friday. The authorities at the airports in Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Tirupati and Rajahmundry have been carrying out checks in the airport buildings and other facilities as per the standard operation procedure.

They kept a close tab on suspicious persons and objects and are screening passengers and bags on their arrival at the airports. The bomb threats were coming through social media platforms. Airport staff was on alert while attending to telephone calls and emails pertaining to the bomb threats. An Air Star flight faced the hoax bomb threat on Thursday when it was heading for Tirupati.

City's first air taxis promise 19-minute commute from Electronics City to airport

SHANTANU HORNAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) and Sarla Aviation, a city-based startup, have signed a collaboration agreement to develop electric air taxi services for airport transfers.

Named in honour of Sarla Thakral, the first Indian woman to obtain a pilot's licence in 1936 at age 21, Sarla Aviation is set to transform urban mobility with its electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) technology.

Sarla Aviation plans to provide air taxi services from Electronics City to the airport for Rs 1,700, with an estimated commute time of just 19 minutes. The company claims its eVTOL aircraft are designed for short urban commutes between 20 to 40 kilometres, with a maximum range of up to 160 kilometres.



A view of the Kempegowda International Airport

According to Sarla Aviation, their aircraft is “100 times safer than a helicopter”, with multiple redundancy systems built into critical components. “Helicopters typically have up to 100 single points of failure between the motor and rotor, but our system has zero,” said Adrian Schmidt, co-founder, and CEO. “Our aircraft features seven propellers, so if one fails, the others compensate.”

As part of the partnership, BIAL and Sarla Aviation will work on developing airport

infrastructure, operational models, and user flow maps to facilitate seamless eVTOL services between the airport and key city locations. Schmidt emphasised that safety is a core value: “Everything that could potentially go wrong in our aircraft has three to five layers of redundancy to address it.”

Schmidt also noted that Karnataka's building regulations require helipads on buildings over 60 metres tall, creating readily available infrastructure for air taxi services. He praised the support from state and central government authorities and expects the air taxi service to be operational within two to three years.

With declining costs in battery and powertrain technology and improving capacity, Schmidt expressed confidence in meeting the proposed fare. “Based on recent trends, we are optimistic we can deliver on our advertised pricing.”

Delhi resident held for hoax bomb threat to IGI Airport

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

A 25-year-old man was arrested for sending a bomb threat to IGI Airport, which later turned out to be a hoax, the police said on Saturday. The accused told the police that he issued the threat in a bid to seek attention, said an officer.

The airport authorities received the bomb threat from a social media account on the intervening night of October 25 and 26.

DCP (IGI) Usha Rangnani said during the probe, the threat was found to be a hoax and the message was traced to an account registered in the name of Shubham Upadhyay, a resident of west Delhi's Uttam Nagar. "Upadhyay said he sent the message after seeing news reports about hoax bomb threats. He said he wanted to draw attention to himself," she said, adding that further investigation is under way.

Renovated Jaipur airport terminal reopened for flights after 11 years



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, 26 OCTOBER

The revamped and renovated terminal 1 of the Jaipur Airport was reopened for flight operations on Saturday after 11 years.

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma inaugurated the terminal, with heritage outlook and get up here this afternoon. Adani Group's Jeet Adani,

Director (Airports) and several dignitaries were present.

Addressing the guests at the function, Chief Minister Sharma expressed satisfaction for the heritage outlook of the new terminal that showcased architecture, sculpture of Jaipur- will attract foreigners.

He said that more efforts should be made to project the art, culture and tourist destinations of Jaipur and other

places of Rajasthan.

Sharma also stressed the need of evolving - developing new tourist circuits covering under exposed tourist places and monuments.

The terminal - one was closed in July 2013 following opening for operations new terminal two. Since then international and domestic flights have been managed from only one terminal.

Now on, international flights will be operated from revamped terminal one and domestic services from terminal - two.

The first international flight on the terminal - one will land around 0210 hrs late tonight from Abu Dhabi - UAE. This terminal has 10 counters for outgoing passengers in Departure Lobby and 14 assistance windows in Arrival lobby. 100 CISF sleuths are being deployed for providing safety and security to flyers and the airport.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

26 OCTOBER 2024

Kolkata airport gets back to normal as flights resume

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 25 OCTOBER

Flight services at Kolkata's Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport have resumed after a temporary suspension due to severe cyclone *Dana*.

After flight services resumed in the morning, the airport was back to its busy way with passengers. Long queues were seen at the entry gate, security check and luggage screening areas. Authorities initially announced the closure on Wednesday, halting all flights from Thursday evening until Friday morning as a precautionary measure against the severe weather conditions. At Kolkata airport, which typically manages around 400 flights daily, services restarted at 8 am on Friday. The first departure was Indigo's Flight 6E6514 to Imphal, scheduled at 8.40 am, while the first arrival was Vistara Flight UK747



from Delhi, which landed at 8.27 am.

A senior spokesperson of NSCBI Airport today said that Kolkata international airport was fully prepared to handle the cyclone impact. Luggage trolleys were secured and sandbags were placed in front of the departure gates, anticipating strong winds. However, severe cyclone *Dana* did not have much effect on West Bengal, and no major damage was reported by the authorities so far. However, bomb scares

were again reported at NSCBI Airport last night, affecting multiple flights consecutively. Despite recent warnings from the central government to take strict action against such hoax calls, such occurrences have not stopped. Several flights made emergency landings at Kolkata airport after a threat on X.

Authorities took no risks and ordered immediate landing of the aircraft. Altogether, 11 flights made emergency landings urgently at Kolkata Airport following a bomb



scare. According to airport sources, posts on X claimed that bombs were placed on flights operated by Indigo, SpiceJet, and Alliance Air. As a result, the flights were grounded at Kolkata Airport, where they were directed to the isolation bay for a thorough search. The Central Industrial Security Force, along with bomb and dog squads, quickly responded and inspected all three aircraft, finding no explosives. Further details revealed seven Indigo flights, one Akasa flight, one SpiceJet flight, and two Alliance Air flights were affected by the bomb threat. The threat even extended to the

airport terminal building. The threatening post read: "Bombs have been placed inside the airport and on flights. No one will survive. Consider this your last day." NSCBI airport spokesperson also said that the Bhubaneswar airport (Bhubaneswar's Biju Patnaik International Airport), which sees about 100 daily flights, resumed operations at 8 am. The temporary halt affected numerous passengers, leading to substantial disruptions and delays. Early Friday morning saw a high influx of passengers at both airports as services gradually returned to normal.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

26 OCTOBER 2024

Long queues mark end of 13-hour closure

Airport reopens an hour early

SANJAY MANDAL AND
SNEHAL SENGUPTA

Calcutta: The city's airport resumed operations on Friday morning, 13 hours after flight movements were suspended on Thursday evening as a precaution against Cyclone Dana.

The airport reopened at 8am on Friday and IndiGo's flight to Imphal was the first to take off, at 8.40.

The first to land — at 8.45am — was Vistara's flight from Delhi.

The flight operations were suspended at 7pm on Thursday. The prediction of strong crosswinds — up to 80km an hour — led to the shutdown. Around 300 flights, domestic and international, were cancelled.

This newspaper reported on Friday how airfares to and from Calcutta on many routes became exorbitantly high because of the rush to rebook seats by passengers of cancelled flights.

"We opened the airport at 8am, instead of 9am as was announced earlier, because many fliers had turned up," said an airport official.

The gates of the airport's terminal building at the departure level had long queues. A steady stream of cars and app cabs made their way to the airport even as it rained continuously and a sizeable number of fliers headed straight to the DigiYatra kiosks outside the gates.

Rows of luggage trolleys secured on Thursday with ropes were unshackled in the morning and the usual buzz was back.

The passenger information boards, which on Thursday evening displayed the list of flights cancelled, were back to showing real-time updates of all the flights scheduled to take off and land.

At the arrival level, too, things looked their usual self. Even taxi touts were



Passengers at the airport on Friday morning. Picture by Bishwarup Dutta

back in action.

Sonam Yangchen, who was booked on a flight to Paro in Bhutan, said she left her hotel on Park Street for the airport at 4am.

"I was apprehensive of traffic snarls because of the rain, so I started early. I reached well within time but there were long queues at the entrance to the terminal," said Yangchen, who had come to the city on a business trip.

Joel Joseph, a businessman from Mumbai who was in the city for the past three months to oversee a real es-

tate project, said he had to pay more than ₹13,000 for a one-way flight to Mumbai.

"Generally a one-way ticket to Mumbai from Calcutta costs around ₹7,000-8,000. Last night, when I was looking for options, ₹13,000 was the cheapest one-way fare from Calcutta to Mumbai," said Joseph.

On Thursday, the terminal building looked deserted after 7.30pm as flights were suspended and the gates sealed.

The taxi bay had emptied out and only those who worked at the airport stayed back.

A US Bangla flight from Dhaka could not land in Calcutta because of heavy rain and poor visibility and flew back to the Bangladesh capital. Two other flights headed for the city had to be diverted for the same reason.

Many overflying flights were diverted, too, because of the cyclone.

"The flights to and from southeast and far-east Asia that fly over Bhubaneswar, which is within Calcutta's flight information region, were diverted," said an official.

Bomb Hoax: Man Without Job Held

Says Inspired By Similar News

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: An unemployed man was arrested for sending hoax bomb threats to several flights and Indira Gandhi International Airport. Shubham Upadhyay, a resident of Uttam Nagar in west Delhi, claimed to have sent the messages after seeing similar news reports on television, in an attempt to draw attention to himself.

Police said on Saturday that two suspicious and potential bomb threats emanated via a social media account. Standard security protocols followed and the flights and airport were inspected. The checks proved the threat to be a hoax.

A case was registered and during investigation, the origin of the messages was traced to an account registered to Upadhyay. Based on manual intelligence and technical surveillance, the 25-year-old resident of Rajapuri, Uttam Nagar, was apprehended. On interrogation, Upadhyay admitted to sending the messages after seeing similar news reports on television. He said he wanted to draw attention to himself.

Despite it being a hoax call, Usha Rangnani, DCP (IGIA) advised people to still remain alert. "We encourage everyone to remain vigilant

and report any suspicious activities to the authorities," the officer said.

There has been a spate of threat mail to airlines in recent days. Earlier this month, a Bengaluru-bound Akasa Air flight with 184 passengers was forced to return to Delhi after receiving a bomb threat. Another flight from Mumbai to Delhi was diverted to Ahmedabad for a similar reason. An Air India flight from Mumbai to New York had to land in Delhi after a bomb threat on X. A Vistara flight from London to Delhi also received a bomb threat written on a piece of paper in a lavatory.

In June, a bomb threat was received at IGIA. An email claimed that a bomb was planted on a Dubai-bound flight that was about to take off. The email turned out to be a hoax. On May 28, a paper with the words "bomb blast at 5.30" found in an aircraft's lavatory created chaos at IGI Airport, leading to the evacuation of all 176 passengers.

On May 16, a similar tissue paper with "bomb" written on it led to all passengers of the Air India flight being de-boarded.

Earlier in Feb, a 38-year-old man was arrested for making a hoax bomb call at IGIA. Police said he was under the influence at the time.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

26 OCTOBER 2024

'Pawfect timing': Therapy dogs introduced at Mumbai airport to de-stress passengers

VijayV.Singh@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: The timing to introduce trained therapy dogs at Mumbai airport's T2 terminal from Friday onwards is 'pawfect', since several flights have been delayed due to bomb hoax calls, leading to enraged, stressed-out passengers. But imagine waiting for a long time in the departures lounge due to a delay when

you see a wagging furry dog in front, with the words 'Pet Me' printed on the collar.

Talking to TOI, Niharika Sekhri, who runs the Pawfect Life kennel, said, "We have done a one-year contract with Adani Group's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport to provide therapy dogs within the airport premises to de-stress passengers. Many international airports,

such as in America and recently at Istanbul (Turkey), use therapy dogs."

Sekhri, who graduated from Nash Academy of Animal Arts, Kentucky USA, to study human engagement with therapy dogs, further commented, "From this Friday onwards, we will use some of our trained therapy dogs at the T2 departures area to interact with people.

Our dogs include a Golden Retriever, a Husky (which is a rescued dog), and also a desi Indie dog among others. These dogs received proper training on how to spread joy and calm down people. So, we are looking forward to this assignment."

Earlier, another animal welfare group provided therapy dogs to Mumbai airport, but this service was later

stopped during the Covid pandemic. "We have also been providing therapy dogs to various corporate companies to de-stress their employees. Our furry kids have been trained and monitored for their sensitivity to loud noises, huge crowd interaction, suddenly being grasped, or being petted by children, etc."

Welcoming the reintroduction

of therapy dogs at the airport, pet transportation expert, Vinayak Prabhu of Furry Flyers company, said, "It is the right time to have therapy dogs at the Mumbai airport as many flights have been affected due to threat calls by anonymous persons. Passengers will tend to forget delays as they start petting or playing with these dogs."





Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

HYDERABAD

26 OCTOBER 2024

Tirupati airport, 3 hotels get bomb threats

Sandeep.Raghavan
@timesofindia.com

Tirupati: Tirupati was on high alert around midnight on Thursday, following bomb threats to three hotels and the airport.

Police searched the hotels and the airport and the bomb threats turned out to be hoaxes.

Tirupati SP L Subba Raghavan said three hotels received bomb threats via emails on Thursday night.

“We immediately sent our teams and sniffer dogs to the hotels and conducted searches which went on till Friday early morning. In the end, the threats turned out to be hoaxes”, he said.

Searches were also held at the Tirupati airport after miscreants posted a bomb threat message on X on Thursday. Police have registered a case.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

HYDERABAD

26 OCTOBER 2024

Our aircraft damaged at Begumpet airport: Apollo

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: The private aircraft owned by Apollo Hospital chairman, Prathap C Reddy, was allegedly damaged by unknown persons while being parked at the Begumpet airport. Following a complaint by the hospital group's chief security officer, Jagjeet Singh, the Begumpet police registered a case on Thursday and started investigation.

In the complaint, Singh stated that the aircraft was parked at the Begumpet airport for a period of 15 days. While police said the aircraft is registered as VT-

PCR, other details about it are yet to be confirmed.

"It was noticed that someone had deliberately damaged the aircraft. However, as the damaged items were under the Minimum Equipment List (MEL) — (list of aircraft equipment that can be inoperative while the aircraft is still safe to fly), the aircraft was used by the company officials to travel to Chennai. It was after reaching Chennai that they (company officials) found further damage to the engine and avionics (electronic equipment)," the complainant told Begumpet police.

► **Continued on P4**

'Didn't receive desired help from airport'

► **From P1**

The company officials travelled to Chennai from Begumpet on April 5. Following this, Apollo submitted a complaint with the airport director about the incident. The chief security officer, Begumpet airport, was also informed about the incident. In his complaint, Singh, however, alleged that Apollo did not receive the desired help from the airport officials to ascertain how the damage was done or the people involved in it. The complainant has now requested Begumpet cops to verify CCTV footage.



Corporate Communications Directorate

ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

26 OCTOBER 2024

Bomb hoax

Delhi-Shillong flight makes emergency landing in Guwahati

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, Oct 25: A Delhi-Shillong flight made an emergency landing at the Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport following a bomb threat, which later turned out to be a hoax.

The SpiceJet flight (SEJ2448) with 75 passengers on board was over the Guwahati skies when a bomb threat was received, forcing it to make an unscheduled emergency landing.

The passengers were swiftly disembarked from the flight and security agencies conducted a thorough search of the flight and found nothing.

Airport Authority of India Director (Umroi) Rajiv Ranjan said that the flight was over Guwahati and the pilot made the

decision to land at the LGBIA rather than come to the Umroi airport. The message was received through an email.

“Reports of Umroi airport not having facilities for such emergency landing are incorrect. We are fully equipped and our staff are trained for such emergencies. But it is the decision of the pilot that prevails in such a scenario,” Ranjan said.

The Delhi-Shillong flight runs every Monday and Friday.

This is reportedly the sixth such hoax bomb threat targeting SpiceJet. In the past few weeks, there have been over 80 such bomb threats. These threats have been received by the Indian aviation industry ever since US-based Khalistani terrorist, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, warned passengers not to fly on Air India.



Corporate Communications Directorate

ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

26 OCTOBER 2024

Over 25 flights of Indian carriers get bomb threats on Friday

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, Oct 25: More than 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats on Friday, according to sources.

In 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

On Thursday, over 70 flights received bomb threats.

An IndiGo spokesperson said that 7 of its flights, including 6E 87 from Kozhikode to Dammam, got alerts. Sources said 7 flights each of IndiGo, Vistara and SpiceJet got threats while 6 flights of Air India received the threats.

IndiGo's six other flights – 6E 2099 (Udaipur to Delhi),

6E 11 (Delhi to Istanbul), 6E 58 (Jeddah to Mumbai), 6E 17 (Mumbai to Istanbul), 6E 108 (Hyderabad to Chandigarh) and 6E 133 (Pune to Jodhpur) – received threats.

The Centre has asked social media platforms Meta and X to share data about hoax bomb threat messages and has started identifying those behind such activities. – PTI



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

फर्जी बम धमकी : सोशल मीडिया से गलत सूचनाएं हटाने का निर्देश

सरकार ने सोशल मीडिया मध्यस्थों को ऐसी गतिविधियों की तुरंत रिपोर्ट करने को कहा

नई दिल्ली। विमानन कंपनियों की उड़ानों व हॉटलों को बम से उड़ाने की धमकियों के बीच केंद्र सरकार ने सोशल मीडिया मंचों को निर्धारित समय-सीमा के भीतर गलत सूचना को तुरंत हटाने का निर्देश दिया है।

आईटी मंत्रालय की ओर से जारी निर्देश में यह भी कहा गया कि सोशल मीडिया मंचों को भारत की एकता, अखंडता, संप्रभुता या सुरक्षा को खतरा

पहुंचाने के इरादे से किए गए अपराध में शामिल लोगों के बारे में संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत सूचित करना चाहिए। गलत सूचनाओं तक पहुंच हटाने या अक्षम करने के अलावा सोशल मीडिया मध्यस्थ भारतीय नागरिक सुरक्षा संहिता, 2023 के तहत ऐसी गतिविधियों की तुरंत रिपोर्ट करें।

मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया मध्यस्थों को याद दिलाया कि आईटी नियमों के

तहत वे अपने नियंत्रण या कब्जे में मौजूद सूचनाएं उपलब्ध कराने और जांच एजेंसियों को 72 घंटे की निर्धारित समयसीमा में मदद देने के लिए बाध्य हैं। सरकार का यह कदम इसलिए महत्वपूर्ण है, क्योंकि पिछले 13 दिनों में भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों की 300 से अधिक उड़ानों को बम से उड़ाने की झूठी धमकियां मिली हैं। अधिकांश धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के जरिये दी गईं। ब्यूरो

आईजीआई पर धमकी देने में एक गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली के इंदिरा गांधी अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे (आईजीआई) पर शुक्रवार शनिवार की दरम्यानी रात मिली धमकी की जांच में पुलिस ने उत्तम नगर के 25 वर्षीय शुभम उपाध्याय को गिरफ्तार किया है। धमकी वाला ईमेल उसी के आईडी से भेजा गया था। पुलिस पूछताछ में उसने स्वीकार किया कि टीवी पर धमकी वाली खबरें देखने के बाद उसने सबका ध्यान अपनी ओर आकर्षित करने के लिए यह ईमेल किया था। उसके खिलाफ एफआईआर दर्ज कर ली गई है।

33 उड़ानों को फिर धमकी देशभर में शनिवार को फिर 33 उड़ानों को बम से उड़ाने की फर्जी धमकी मिली। सूत्रों के मुताबिक इनमें इंडिगो, एअर इंडिया और विस्तारा की 11-11 उड़ानें शामिल हैं। गुजरात के राजकोट में शनिवार को दस हॉटलों को बम से उड़ाने की भी ई-मेल से धमकी मिली जो जांच में फर्जी निकली।

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

टीवी पर खबरें देखकर दी हवाई जहाज को उड़ाने की धमकी

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट थाना पुलिस ने सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट के जरिए हवाई जहाज को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी देने वाले आरोपी को गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। पुलिस ने तकनीकी जांच करने के बाद आरोपी तक पहुंची और उसे उत्तम नगर से गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। पुलिस ने आरोपी के फोन को

पुलिस ने तकनीकी जांच कर आरोपी युवक को उत्तम नगर से किया गिरफ्तार, पूछताछ

कब्जे में कर लिया है। आरोपी 12 वीं पास है और फिलहाल बेरोजगार है। उसकी पहचान उत्तम नगर निवासी शुभम उपाध्याय के रूप में हुई है।

आरोपी ने पूछताछ में बताया कि उसने टेलीविजन पर इसी तरह की

खबरें देखने के बाद खुद पर ध्यान आकर्षित करने के लिए संदेश भेजा था। 25 अक्टूबर की देर रात सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट के जरिए विमान को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी दी गई थी। सूचना मिलते ही दिल्ली पुलिस के साथ साथ अन्य सुरक्षा एजेंसियों ने हवाई अड्डे की चप्पे चप्पे की तलाशी ली। जांच पड़ताल के बाद पुलिस को वहां से कोई विस्फोटक नहीं मिला। उसके बाद

पुलिस ने सूचना को फर्जी करार दे दिया। आईजीआई थाना पुलिस ने इस बाबत मामला दर्ज कर लिया। पुलिस ने मामले की जांच शुरू की। तकनीकी जांच के जरिए पुलिस को पता चला कि संदेश उत्तम नगर निवासी शुभम उपाध्याय के नाम से पंजीकृत खाते से हुई है। तकनीकी निगरानी कर पुलिस ने आरोपी शुभम को राजापुरी उत्तम नगर से गिरफ्तार कर लिया।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

26 OCTOBER 2024

MORE THAN 25 FLIGHTS RECEIVE BOMB THREATS

New Delhi/ Mumbai, Oct. 25: More than 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats on Friday, according to sources.

In 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

On Thursday, over 70 flights received bomb threats.

An IndiGo spokesperson said 7 of its flights, including 6E 87 from Kozhikode to Dammam, got security-related alerts.

The sources in the know said around 7 flights each of IndiGo, Vistara and SpiceJet got the threats while 6 flights of Air India received the threats.

IndiGo's six other flights -- 6E 2099 (Udaipur to Delhi), 6E 11 (Delhi to Istanbul), 6E 58 (Jeddah to Mumbai), 6E 17 (Mumbai to Istanbul), 6E 108 (Hyderabad to Chandigarh) and 6E 133 (Pune to Jodhpur) — received the threats.

IndiGo posts first quarterly loss in two years in Q2FY25

The bleed came from 18% of its fleet being grounded and high fuel costs

ABHILASH REDDY
BENGALURU, DHNS



For the first time in two years, IndiGo, the airline with the largest domestic market share, reported a bleeding bottomline, posting a net loss of Rs 990 crore in the quarter ended September 30, dropping from a net profit of Rs 188.9 crore in the year ago period.

Haunted by the faulty Pratt & Whitney engines, the airline saw over 70 of its aircraft grounded during the period and grappled with fuel costs that escalated 12.8% year-on-year (YoY) to Rs 6,605.2 crore, accounting for 35.38% of total costs. It didn't help that aircraft rental and maintenance costs jumped nearly 30% and costs from newer aircraft and engine rentals rose by 290% to Rs 763.60 crore during the quarter.

Increase in value added tax (VAT) on aviation turbine fuel by some states, inflation in operating line items, high operational costs due to capacity addition are the factors which drove the overall costs up by 21.9% YoY to Rs 18,666 crore in the period under review.

Gaurav Negi, airline's Chief Financial Officer said in a post-results call with analysts, that the number of aircraft on

ground will reduce to 'sub 60s' in the months to come from 'mid 70's' last year. He expects the grounded aircraft to further decrease to 'mid 40's' by the next financial year.

"In a traditionally weaker second quarter, results were further impacted by headwinds related to groundings and fuel costs. We have turned the corner as the number of grounded aircraft and associated costs have started reducing," Pieter Elbers, CEO, IndiGo said.

"IndiGo's growth and expansion continued as our topline grew by 14.6% on a YoY basis, in the second quarter to Rs 17,800 crore. The tailor-made business class will be introduced on the Delhi-Mumbai route and later, it will be available on 12 metro routes with a fleet of 40 plus aircraft," he added.

The airline will also be launching services to more international destinations this fiscal.

Available seat kilometres (ASKs), a measure of the airline's passenger carrying capacity, grew 8.2% YoY in the period under review.

Yield, which is average reve-

nue generated per passenger, grew by 2.3% YoY to Rs 4.55 per kilometer, indicating higher ticket prices or improved demand. However, this is a decline from the June quarter's yield of Rs 5.24 per km as the airline offered discounts to attract customers in a seasonally weaker second quarter.

While revenue per available seat kilometre (RASK) stood at Rs 4.45, cost per ASK (CASK) was at Rs 4.69. The airlines' RASK rose 4.8% from a year ago, while CASK rose 11.8% from a year ago.

This disparity is due to high fuel costs and discounts offered on some routes.

"For the quarter, our passenger ticket revenues were Rs 14,359 crore, an increase of 9.9% and ancillary revenues were Rs 1,875 crore, an increase of 20.9% compared to the same period last year," the release said.

IndiGo carried a total of 244.49 lakh passengers, holding a market share of 62.5% during the quarter. The company has a total of 410 aircrafts under its fleet and expects third-quarter capacity to grow by low-double-digit percentage YoY.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

26 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet settles \$4.5 mn dispute with SES for \$2 mn

MUMBAI, PTI: Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Friday announced it has settled a \$4.5 million dispute with Shannon Engine Support Ltd (SES) for an aggregate sum of \$2 million.

This settlement with SES follows three other financial agreements by the airline in recent weeks, SpiceJet said

in a statement. Both parties-- SpiceJet and Shanon Engine Support-- have reached this agreement through amicable negotiations, choosing to resolve the matter outside the courtroom, the airline said. As part of the settlement, all ongoing litigations between the parties will be withdrawn.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

26 OCTOBER 2024

Daytime flight between B'luru and Colombo

BENGALURU, DHNS: Sri Lankan Airlines is scheduled to launch a new daytime flight between Bengaluru and Colombo on October 31, bringing the total weekly operations between the two cities to 10 flights.

Flight UL 1174 will depart from Bengaluru to Colombo at 9.40 am every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, arriving in Colombo at 11.10 am. The corresponding return flight, UL 1173, will leave Colombo at 7.20 am and reach Bengaluru at 8.40 am, also every Thursday through Saturday.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

उड़ान में बम की अफवाह फैलाने वाला हुआ गिरफ्तार

जास, पश्चिमी दिल्ली: टीवी पर उड़ानों में बम की खबर देखने के बाद उत्तम नगर इलाके के एक युवक ने भी इंटरनेट मीडिया पर बम की अफवाह फैला दी। उसे लग रहा था कि वह ऐसा करके प्रसिद्ध हो जाएगा, लेकिन पुलिस ने उसे 24 घंटे में ही पकड़ लिया। आरोपित की पहचान उत्तम नगर के राजापुरी के शुभम उपाध्याय के रूप में हुई है।

पुलिस अधिकारी ने बताया कि शुक्रवार रात को इंटरनेट मीडिया के माध्यम से आइजीआइ एयरपोर्ट को उड़ान में बम की धमकी दी गई थी। सूचना मिलते ही पुलिस एक्शन में आई। प्राथमिकी दर्ज कर जांच शुरू की गई। जांच के दौरान बम की सूचना अफवाह निकली। धमकी उत्तम नगर के शुभम उपाध्याय नाम के खाते से भेजी गई थी। तकनीकी निगरानी के आधार पर आरोपित को राजापुरी से पकड़ लिया गया। पूछताछ के दौरान आरोपित ने बताया कि उसने टीवी पर इसी तरह की खबर देखने के बाद अपनी ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करने के लिए ऐसा किया। उपाध्याय 12वीं पास है और बेरोजगार है।

Corporate Communications Directorate

ECONOMIC TIMES

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

US Chararters Flight to Send Back Indians Staying Illegally

Says this has been done in cooperation with Indian govt to encourage use of lawful ways

Our Political Bureau

New Delhi: The US has, for the first time, hired a chartered flight to send back Indian nationals who stayed in the country illegally, the US Department of Homeland Security said on Friday, adding that this has been done in cooperation with the Indian government.

"Indian nationals without a legal basis to remain in the United States are subject to swift removal, and intending migrants should not fall for the lies of smugglers who proclaim otherwise," Kristie A Canegallo, acting deputy secretary at the Department of Homeland Security, said in a statement.

The chartered flight was sent to India on October 22. The statement said the Department of Homeland



REPRESENTATIONAL PHOTO

Security continues to enforce US immigration laws and deliver tough consequences for those who enter unlawfully by swiftly returning those without a legal basis to remain in the US while encouraging the use of lawful pathways.

Since June 2024, when the presidential proclamation on securing

the border and the Interim Final Rule came into effect, encounters between ports of entry along the US' southwest border have decreased by 55%.

In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Homeland Security removed or returned over 160,000 individuals and operated more than 495

international repatriation flights to more than 145 countries, including India, the statement said. It said the department regularly engaged with foreign governments throughout the hemisphere and around the world to accept repatriations of their nationals without a legal basis to remain in the US.

It added this was one tool among many the US used to reduce irregular migration, promote the use of safe, lawful and orderly pathways, and hold transnational criminal networks accountable for smuggling and exploitation of vulnerable people.

There have been recent reports that Indians have tried to use the Canada route to enter the US illegally instead of the Mexico route due to tightening of vigil along the Mexico-US border.

Corporate Communications Directorate

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

● **NON-COMPLIANCE WILL RISK LOSS OF SAFE HARBOUR STATUS**

Remove misinformation on hoax bomb threats: MeitY tells social media

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, October 26

AS MULTIPLE AIRLINES reported disruptions in their operations in the past few days owing to hoax bomb threats, the ministry of electronics and IT (MeitY) has asked the social media platforms to remove such misinformation promptly.

The government has warned them of losing safe harbour status on failure to remove such misinformation from the platforms. Under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, the platforms have the immunity against legal prosecution for content posted by users.

"The scale of spread of such hoax bomb threats has been observed to be dangerously unrestrained due to the availability of the option of "forwarding/re-sharing/ re-posting/ re-tweeting" on social media platforms. Such hoax bomb threats are mostly misinformation that is massively disrupting the public order, operations of airlines and

TURBULENT TIMES

■ Under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, the platforms have the immunity against legal prosecution for content posted by users

■ Platforms will have to provide information on the matter to law enforcement agencies within 72 hours

■ In 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by Indian carriers received hoax bomb threats

■ Platforms will also be liable for consequential action under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

■ Additional liability on intermediaries concerned under the BNSS



security of the airline travellers," MeitY said in an advisory to the platforms on Friday.

"The exemption from liability for any third party in information, data, or communication link made available or hosted by social media intermediaries as provided under section 79 of the IT Act shall not apply if such intermediaries do not follow the due diligence obligations as prescribed under the IT Act read with IT Rules, 2021 or abetted or aided, in the commission of the

unlawful act," the advisory said.

The ministry also cited the provisions of the IT Rules, as per which platforms will have to provide information on the matter to law enforcement agencies within 72 hours. The issue assumes significance as in the 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media. The government said the platforms will also be liable for consequential action under the

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023 (BNS) as well, in case of their failure to observe the due diligence obligations.

There is an additional liability on intermediaries concerned under BNSS to mandatorily report certain offences perceived to be committed by any user of their platform that includes act with the intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, sovereignty, security, or economic security of India, according to the advisory.

Over 30 flights get hoax bomb threats; 1 held

AS MANY AS 33 flights received bomb threats on Saturday, according to sources. In 13 days, more than 300 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media. The sources in the know said 11 flights each of IndiGo, Air India and Vistara received the threats on Saturday.

A 25-year-old man was arrested for allegedly posting threat messages to a flight at Indira Gandhi International Airport, police said on Saturday. Shubham Upadhyay, a resident of Uttam Nagar in the national capital, was arrested for posting two bomb threat messages to draw attention after seeing similar news reports on TV, the police said.

—PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

26 OCTOBER 2024

IndiGo posts ₹986 cr loss in Sep quarter

PTI

NEW DELHI

Flying into the red after seven quarters, the country's largest airline IndiGo on Friday posted a net loss of Rs 986.7 crore in the September quarter on headwinds from grounding of planes and higher fuel costs.

IndiGo said the number of grounded aircraft has reduced to high 60s from mid 70s and will further come down to sub-60 level by the year-end.

In the 2023 September quarter, the airline's profit stood at Rs 188.9 crore in the year-ago period.

Excluding the impact of foreign exchange, IndiGo's loss in the second quarter of the current financial year stood at Rs



746.1 crore, according to a release. IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said the airline's growth and expansion continued as the topline grew 14.6 per cent on a year-on-year basis to Rs 17,800 crore in the second quarter. "In a traditionally weaker second quarter, results were further impacted by headwinds related to groundings and fuel costs. We have turned the corner as the number of grounded aircraft and associated costs have started reducing," he said.

Now, Mumbai to Kandla flight gets hoax threat

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

The series of hoax bomb threats to flights operated by Indian carriers continued unabated on Friday, throwing security officials into a tizzy. In the latest such security scare, a Mumbai-Kandla SpiceJet flight received a bomb threat, prompting the Kandla officials to alert the police. No bomb was found in the flight after a detailed check.

Similar incident was reported from Delhi where the control room received a call, claiming that a human bomb and up to 90 terrorists were onboard a flight coming from Mumbai. After getting the information, Mumbai airport authorities conducted an investigation. It was revealed that the call was made with the intent to harass a woman. Such threats were also issued to other flights operating on various routes.

Investigations are underway to identify the person/s responsible for the scare and determine the motive behind the threats.

On Thursday, a threat was posted on X handle – adamlanza222 – and was also tagged to IndiGo's account. It targeted IndiGo, Vistara, and Air India flights, saying "I planted bombs onboard 20 of your planes. No one will get out alive. Treat this as your last day." Threats with similar wording were also issued against Akasa Airlines.

Acting as per protocols, security officials notified relevant authorities after receiving the threats. Each flight landed in isolation bays where extensive inspections were conducted. No bombs were found on any of the aircraft.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

दुस्साहस: 33 विमान और दस होटल उड़ाने की धमकी

नई दिल्ली, एजेसी। 33 विमानों और राजकोट के दस होटलों को शनिवार को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी दी गई। पिछले 13 दिनों में 300 से अधिक उड़ानों को धमकियां मिल चुकी हैं।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि शनिवार को इंडिगो, एयर इंडिया और विस्तारा की 11-11 उड़ानों को धमकियां मिलीं। एयर इंडिया के प्रवक्ता ने बयान में कहा कि निर्धारित प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करते हुए, संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत सतर्क किया गया। वहीं, आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर एक विमान को उड़ाने की धमकी देने में पुलिस ने उत्तम नगर निवासी व्यक्ति को गिरफ्तार किया है।

धमकी के संदेश हटाए सोशल मीडिया मंच

आईटी मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया मंचों से कहा कि वे निर्धारित समयसीमा के भीतर गलत सूचनाएं अपने मंच से तुरंत हटाएं या उस तक पहुंच बाधित करें। > **व्योरा P15**

उधर, राजकोट के दस होटलों को बम की धमकी वाले ई-मेल को पुलिस ने जांच के बाद फर्जी करार दिया। पुलिस ने बम निरोधक दस्ते के साथ परिसरों की पांच घंटे तक तलाशी ली लेकिन कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं मिला।

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

फर्जी बम से जुड़ी सूचनाएं तुरंत हटाएं : केंद्र

निर्देश

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। विमानों को बम से उड़ाने की मिलने वाली फर्जी धमकियों की बढ़ती संख्या के बीच आईटी मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया मंचों से कहा कि वे सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी नियमों के तहत निर्धारित कठोर समयसीमा के भीतर गलत सूचनाएं तुरंत हटाएं या उस तक पहुंच को बाधित करें।

गलत सूचना को हटाने या उस तक पहुंच को बाधित करने के अलावा सोशल मीडिया मध्यस्थों का अतिरिक्त दायित्व है कि वे उपयोगकर्ता द्वारा किए गए अपराध की शिकायत करें। इनमें भारत की एकता, अखंडता, संप्रभुता या सुरक्षा को खतरा पहुंचाने के इरादे से किए गए अपराध भी शामिल हैं।



सोशल मीडिया मंच सहायता को बाध्य

सरकार ने जारी परामर्श में कहा कि सोशल मीडिया मंच आईटी नियमों के तहत सूचनाएं उपलब्ध कराने तथा जांच एजेंसियों को 72 घंटे तक की निर्धारित समय सीमा में सहायता प्रदान करने को बाध्य है।

यह कदम बहुत अहम

केंद्र ने कहा कि यह इसलिए अहम है क्योंकि 12 दिनों में 275 से अधिक उड़ानों में बम की धमकियां मिली हैं। अधिकतर धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से मिलीं। शुरुआत को ही 25 से अधिक घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों को बम से उड़ाने की धमकियां मिलीं।

क्या कहता है आईटी नियम

आईटी मंत्रालय ने कहा कि आईटी नियम 2021 मध्यस्थों को अपने पास मौजूद जानकारी को साझा करने के लिए बाध्य करता है, या जांच या सुरक्षात्मक अथवा साइबर सुरक्षा गतिविधियों के लिए कानूनी रूप से अधिकृत सरकारी एजेंसी को सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए बाध्य करता है।

सोशल मीडिया पर विमान में बम की धमकी देने वाला गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। विमान में बम की धमकी भरा संदेश सोशल मीडिया पर डालने वाले एक युवक को आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पुलिस ने गिरफ्तार किया है। आरोपी की पहचान उत्तम नगर निवाली शुभम उपाध्याय के रूप में हुई।

आरोपी ने पुलिस को बताया कि उसने टीवी पर इस तरह की कई खबरें देखी थी। इसलिए उसने भी लोगों का ध्यान खींचने के लिए यह झूठी जानकारी सोशल मीडिया पर डाली थी। डीसीपी उषा रंगनानी के अनुसार

■ लोगों का ध्यान खींचने के लिए झूठी जानकारी सोशल मीडिया पर डाली थी

बीते 25 अक्टूबर की रात आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर विमान में बम की सूचना सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से मिली थी। इस धमकी को ध्यान में रखते हुए सभी दिशा-निर्देशों का पालन करते हुए सुरक्षा बंदोबस्त किए गए। विमान की तलाशी में कुछ भी संदिग्ध नहीं मिला।



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

एयर इंडिया का केबिन कू की नीतियों में बदलाव

नई दिल्ली, एजेन्सी। एयर इंडिया ने केबिन कू सदस्यों के लिए नीतियों में बदलाव किया है। कंपनी ने लेओवर भत्ते में बढ़ोतरी की है। साथ ही लंबी दूरी की उड़ानों के लिए केबिन अधिकारियों और उड़ानों का संचालन करने वालों को छोड़कर बाकी सदस्यों को कमरे साझा करने होंगे।

संशोधित नीति केबिन कू सदस्यों की प्रतिक्रिया को ध्यान में रखकर बनाई है। इससे पहले, नीति में केबिन कू सदस्यों के लिए कमरा साझा करने का प्रस्ताव था।



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

NEW DELHI

27 OCTOBER 2024

टाटा की विमान निर्माण इकाई का उद्घाटन कल

ई दिल्ली, एजेंसी।
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और
स्पेन के उनके समकक्ष पेद्रो
सांचेज बडोदरा में टाटा
विमान विनिर्माण इकाई का
सोमवार को उद्घाटन करेंगे।
टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स इस
इकाई में सी-295 विमान
का निर्माण करेगा।

प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय
(पीएमओ) ने शनिवार को
बताया कि यह भारत में निजी
क्षेत्र की पहली ऐसी इकाई
होगी, जिसमें अलग-अलग
स्थान पर तैयार कलपुर्जों को
जोड़कर सैन्य विमान को
साकार रूप दिया जाएगा।

Ministry asks social media firms to curb bomb hoax posts

Social media firms told to curb bomb hoax posts

In this advisory, for instance, the Ministry wrote that “social media intermediaries have a due diligence obligation under the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, to promptly remove such misinformation that affects public order and security of the State”.

This approach was also reflected earlier this year, when deepfake videos of celebrities spread widely. In that case, after initially mulling amendments to tackle that issue, the Ministry chose instead to leverage a broader interpretation of the IT Rules, 2021.

The consequences for social media platforms if they find themselves non-compliant with the IT Rules are that they lose protection against intermediary liability. This would enable them to be sued as publishers of such posts, as opposed to neutral platforms. In Friday’s advisory, the Ministry said that platforms that do not perform the “due diligence” in this view of the law could face legal action under the IT Act, and under the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita*, 2023.

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on Friday informed social media companies that it was their duty to curb posts raising threats to the safety of flights operating from India. “The scale of spread of such hoax bomb threats has been observed to be dangerously unrestrained due to the availability of the option of ‘forwarding/ re-sharing/ re-posting/ re-tweeting’ on the social media platforms,” the Ministry said in an advisory.

Earlier this week, Ministry officials reportedly met with social media platforms, with an official criticising X in particular for “abetting” these threats. The company said in a statement later that it was working to prevent these threats on its platform.

Such threats have so far



The Centre blames the option of forwarding messages available on platforms.

disrupted over 100 flights, both domestic and international, leading to delays or diversions. The issue has strained the aviation sector, which is gearing up for a busy festival season.

The advisory doubles down on the Ministry’s developing strategy for regulating social media firms: insisting that existing legal provisions are sufficient to force platforms to act.

CONTINUED ON

» PAGE 8

What is the flight protocol for a bomb threat?

What has been the loss incurred by Indian aviation due to frequent security threats? What are the Standards and Recommended Practices to tackle this? Who sets up and monitors aviation guidelines? Can existing laws be tweaked to hand out more stringent punishment to offenders?

Murali N. Krishnaswamy

The story so far:

Over nearly two weeks, almost all Indian carriers including the Tata group airlines – Air India, Vistara, and Air India Express – as well as IndiGo, Alliance Air, and Star Air have faced a wave of threats, resulting in emergency responses and rerouting. There has been military fighter jet interception of some of the flights when they were in international airspace after the crew squawked an emergency transponder code. While all the threats have been determined to be a hoax, they have still led to significant flight delays and financial losses to the airlines, about ₹13 lakh-₹17 lakh an hour.

What do we know about the threats?

According to the Union Civil Aviation Minister, Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, most threats have been through social media. Intelligence agencies are looking into the issue and there is a strong possibility of cases being registered. As the threats are largely of an online nature, the tracking of IP addresses and virtual private network use are in focus. The Minister added that even if intuition was that it could be a hoax, nothing was being left unchecked. India has nearly 4,000 flight operations in a day, he said, and within the timeline since the threats began, this would mean over 275 threats for 48,000

‘Tackling hoax calls will require a lot of investment in technology such as advanced call tracking systems’

flights. He said that efforts were on to make changes in the aviation laws in order to have a strong framework in place. There has been one detention so far – of a teenager who made hoax calls. Representatives of some of the social media platforms concerned have indicated that they are “committed to crack down on terror threats being made against Indian flights”.

What is the aviation security architecture?

Almost all the main security guidelines and directives are rooted in the International Civil Aviation Organization’s (ICAO) Annex 17-Aviation Security (Restricted). An ICAO spokesperson told *The Hindu* that the formulation and adoption of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for international civil aviation are important, which are detailed in technical annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation – also called the Chicago Convention. The ICAO has measures against acts of ‘unlawful interference against civil aviation throughout the world’. The SARPs for international aviation security form Annex 17 to the Chicago Convention.

There is also the ICAO Aviation Security Manual (Doc 8973-Restricted) which assists ICAO member-states. The spokesperson said that Annex 17 and Doc 8973 are under constant review keeping in mind new threats and evolving technological developments. The spokesperson added that there are restrictions to the information on (member-) state discussions regarding the evolution of security matters, the resulting assessments, and the associated mitigation measures. Specific ICAO guidance on security matters is restricted.

In India, the nodal agency concerned is the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security. Its main responsibility is to have in place standards and measures for the security of civilian flights. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is concerned with safety. Other agencies involved, directly and indirectly, include the Airports Authority of India; the Central Industrial Security Force; the National Security Guard; the Intelligence Bureau; the Research and Analysis Wing; the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the higher judiciary.

In the context of the threats, amendments could be planned to the Aircraft Act 1934, the Aircraft Rules 1937, and subordinate pieces of legislation to ensure stringent punishment and placing offenders on a ‘no-fly list’. The Minister highlighted planned amendments to the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Civil Aviation Act, 1982, which would allow legal action even when the aircraft is on the ground. Regulations now focus on in-flight incidents.

An official said that in every airport, the operator, airlines, and security agencies have procedures to handle security threats based on approved documents. He said, “Every airport is prepared to handle such situations as the procedures are regularly tested and updated.” There are specific documents but they are restricted. Contingency procedures for unusual occurrences include bomb threats (and aircraft isolation), hijacks, radio communication failure, and other emergencies associated with aircraft.

A pilot who flies the Boeing 777 aircraft says a threat is taken very seriously and there are procedures for the crew. Air traffic control agencies also have procedures.

How are threats to be handled?

An aviation security expert who served in various geographical domains has told *The Hindu* that hoax calls are of a specific or non-specific nature. While specific details about the hoax calls in the Indian context might not be publicly available, the issue has highlighted systemic issues that concern standardised procedures, guidelines, training, technological limitations, communication gaps, and regulatory challenges.

Tackling hoax calls, for instance, according to the expert, would require investment in technology such as advanced call tracking systems, AI-powered call analysis, voice stress analysis, comprehensive threat assessment, and rewards and incentives for informers. The expert says the industry must look at emerging technologies such as quantum computing, having an aviation cybersecurity framework, pitching for a global hoax call database, having AI-powered chatbots for initial threat assessment, and putting in place enhanced psychological profiling of callers.

An aviation safety expert and a former member of the Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council suggests placing the photographs of offenders on social media and on display at airports.



Disruption: An Air India flight that made an emergency landing in Thiruvananthapuram, on August 22, after a bomb threat. NIRMAL HARINDRAN



The Indira Gandhi International Airport received multiple bomb threats over the past fortnight.

VIPIN KUMAR/HT PHOTO

25-year-old held for bomb threats on social media

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A 25-year-old unemployed man, a resident of Uttam Nagar, was arrested on Saturday for allegedly sending bomb threats to multiple airlines and claiming bombs were planted in multiple flights on Friday night, police officers aware of the matter said.

This marked the second arrest across the country — Mumbai Police detained a 17-year-old on October 16 — in connection with the series of hoax bomb threats made over the past fortnight.

Police identified the accused as Shubham Upadhyay, a Class 12 graduate.

A senior police officer said that Upadhyay allegedly made two posts on social media, threatening to blow up Delhi-bound flights, after watching television reports and news on the same.

“We think he copied the schedule of a few flights and pasted them along with a threat saying there was a bomb on these planes,” the officer, not wishing to be identified, said.

The two posts were sent to the IGI Airport police early Saturday.

Police said they immediately registered a case under the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Civil Aviation

(SUA-SCA) Act and sections of criminal intimidation under the BNS.

Usha Rangnani, deputy commissioner of police (IGI Airport), said, “We had taken immediate action and standard security protocols were followed for all flights. Threat was found to be a hoax. During the investigation, the origin of the messages was traced to an account registered in the name of Upadhyay. Based on further information, a raid was conducted and he was nabbed.”

Police said Upadhyay admitted to having posted the messages after watching news of similar incidents on television.

“He wanted to draw attention to himself and sent the messages as a prank. The matter is currently under further investigation,” Rangnani said.

Police said they have strengthened security in and around the airport and urged the public not to get “alarmed” over such threats.

Meanwhile, the aviation ministry sent an advisory to airlines on the hoax bomb threats and urged them to report fake calls, messages and posts at the earliest.

Civil aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu said that the ministry intended to take strict action against the accused and that the safety of passengers would not be compromised.

Modi, Spanish PM to unveil Tata-Airbus unit tomorrow

Rahul Singh
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Spanish counterpart Pedro Sanchez will on October 28 jointly inaugurate the Tata Aircraft Complex in Vadodara for manufacturing the C-295 transport aircraft, a watershed in the country's private sector that will produce a military plane for the first time.

It will be the first private sector final assembly line for military aircraft in India, the Prime Minister's office said in a statement on Saturday.

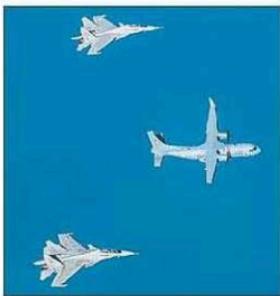
"It will involve the full development of a complete ecosystem from the manufacture to assembly, test and qualification, to delivery and maintenance of the complete lifecycle of the aircraft," the PMO said.

In September 2021, the

defence ministry signed a ₹21,935-crore contract with Airbus for 56 planes to boost self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector. Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Airbus are jointly executing the programme. The contract requires the European plane maker to deliver 16 C-295s in flyaway condition, while the rest will be assembled in Vadodara.

Airbus has already delivered six C-295s to the Indian Air Force, while the seventh aircraft is expected to enter service by the year-end, HT has learnt. IAF inducted its first C-295 in September 2023.

The last of the 16 flyaway aircraft will be delivered to IAF by August 2025, while the first made-in-India C-295 will roll out of the Vadodara facility in September 2026 and the remaining 39 by August 2031.



A C-295 transport aircraft. IAF

In October 2022, Modi laid the foundation stone of the Vadodara facility. IAF will be the world's largest operator of the C-295.

The planes will boost the air force's logistics capabilities to meet mission requirements in forward areas, including those near the contested border with China, and replace its ageing fleet of Avro transport aircraft

that entered service in the early 1960s. Apart from Tatas, leading defence public sector units such as Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) as well as micro, small and medium enterprises will contribute to the programme, the PMO said.

All 56 aircraft will be fitted with the indigenous electronic warfare suite developed by BEL and BDL. While BEL is supplying the radar warning receiver and the missile approach warning system, BDL is providing the countermeasure dispensing system.

The C295 contract covers performance-based logistics support for five years, supply of spares across 10 operating bases for 10 years, ground support and test equipment, and training.

As part of the C-295 project, the manufacturing of more than 13,000 parts, 4,600 sub-assemblies

and all major component assemblies will be carried out in the country. To be sure, equipment such as engines, landing gear and avionics will be provided by Airbus, and integrated on the aircraft. The tactical airlifter is powered by two Pratt & Whitney PW127G turboprop engines.

The aircraft can carry up to nine tonnes of payload or 71 personnel or 45 paratroopers and has a maximum speed of 480 kmph. It can also operate from short or unprepared airstrips and has a rear ramp for para dropping troops and cargo.

Also, Airbus Helicopters has shortlisted eight locations in India for setting up a production line for the H125 chopper, the fourth such facility in the world, in partnership with TASL. The first H125 is expected to roll out of an Indian facility in 2026.

Over 25 flights receive bomb threats as chaos enters Day 12

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: Over 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats on Friday, taking the total number of flights affected in the last 12 days to at least 275.

Friday's threats targeted around seven flights each from IndiGo, Vistara and SpiceJet while six flights of Air India received such alerts, according to reports.

IndiGo confirmed receiving the security alerts for one of its flights. "Flight 6E 2099, operating from Udaipur to Delhi, received a bomb threat. Following security agency guidelines, the aircraft was redirected to the isolation bay before take-off and standard operating procedures were followed. All passengers were safely disembarked," the airline spokesperson said in a statement.

IndiGo's six other flights -- 6E 87 (Kozhikode to Dammam), 6E 11 (Delhi to Istanbul), 6E 58 (Jeddah to Mumbai), 6E 17 (Mumbai to Istanbul), 6E 108 (Hyderabad to Chandigarh) and 6E 133 (Pune to Jodhpur) -- received the threats.

A Delhi to Shillong SpiceJet flight (SEJ2448) was forced to make an emergency landing at Guwahati's Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport (LGBI). The flight, carrying 75 passengers, was approaching Shillong when the security alert



Friday's threats targeted around seven flights from IndiGo.

REUTERS

THE THREATS HAVE PRIMARILY COME THROUGH X, WITH PERPETRATORS APPARENTLY USING VPNS TO MAINTAIN ANONYMITY

was received via X, triggering an immediate response from the flight crew and the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The flight was diverted to Guwahati, the nearest airport equipped to handle emergency situations.

Shillong airport director Rajeev Ranjan said: "Fortunately, it turned out to be a hoax, but the designated agencies have already begun investigating according to protocol." The development came days after the government on Wednesday asked social media platforms Meta and X to share data about the hoax threats. At the meeting, attended by officials from the IT ministry

and representatives from airlines and social media platforms, joint secretary Sanket S Bhondve questioned X's representatives about their measures to prevent such false threats. "The IT ministry told the social media companies to promptly give the government and law enforcement agencies information related to the bomb threats. This includes, but is not limited to the details of the person posting the hoax message," a person who attended the meeting, speaking on condition of anonymity, told HT.

Earlier on Thursday, an X spokesperson told HT: "We prohibit violent threats on X and take any such reports seriously. That includes and is not limited to threats to harm civilian infrastructure essential to daily, civic or business activities. Our teams, systems and reporting channels are at work around the clock to keep X safer for all our users in India". To be sure, it is not clear how X, which has always been reluctant to share information on users, plans to do this.

The threats have primarily come through X, with perpetrators apparently using VPNs to maintain anonymity. Two accounts identified by Hindustan Times, @schizobomber777 and @adamlanzalll, were reportedly created recently, specifically to post these threats. The second account continued posting threats even after the issue had become a serious concern.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

26 OCTOBER 2024

SpiceJet flight denied landing at Darbhanga due to parking crunch

Bishnu K Jha

htpatna@hindustantimes.com

DARBHANGA: A SpiceJet flight number SG 495, travelling from Delhi to Darbhanga, was diverted to Varanasi airport on Friday after being denied landing permission at Darbhanga airport due to lack of parking space. It left passengers utterly frustrated and many of them expressed their anger over the ongoing logistical challenges at Darbhanga airport.

Among the passengers, one

senior citizen and former LN Mithila University professor, Harinarayan Singh, voiced his exasperation, saying that frequent disruptions had become common at Darbhanga airport. Singh was so livid that he chose to return to Delhi by the same flight instead of coming to Darbhanga by another.

He said that it was baffling when the crew made the announcement about parking issues and diversion of the flight.

A senior SpiceJet official,

speaking on condition of anonymity, stated that passengers opting to return to Delhi were given priority on the next available flights.

When asked about the incident, Darbhanga airport director Partha Saha said that he was unaware of the precise reason why the flight was not permitted to land at the airport. "The information I have received indicates that the flight could not land due to issues originating from the operational region," he said.

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

26 OCTOBER 2024



More than 25 flights receive bomb threats in a day

More than 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats on Friday, according to sources. An IndiGo spokesperson on Friday said seven of its flights, including 6E 87 from Kozhikode to Dammam, got security-related alerts. The sources in the know said around seven flights each of IndiGo, Vistara, and SpiceJet got threats, while six flights of Air India received threats. In 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received bomb threats. PTI



More than 25 flights receive bomb threats in a day

More than 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats on Friday, according to sources. An IndiGo spokesperson on Friday said seven of its flights, including 6E 87 from Kozhikode to Dammam, got security-related alerts. The sources in the know said around seven flights each of IndiGo, Vistara, and SpiceJet got threats, while six flights of Air India received threats. In 12 days, more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received bomb threats. PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

26 OCTOBER 2024

FROM DEC 1

Good news: Air India Exp to operate Kolkata-Port Blair double daily flights

KOLKATA: Air India Express, a subsidiary of Air India, on Friday announced commencement of direct flights from Port Blair to Kolkata.

The double daily flights to and fro Kolkata will commence on December 1, it said, adding that bookings are now open on the airline's website, mobile app, and other major booking channels.

The first flight from Port Blair to Kolkata will take off at 8.35 am and reach Kolkata at 10.45 am. The second flight will leave Port Blair at 12.20 pm and reach Kolkata at 2.35 pm.

On the other hand, the first flight from Kolkata to Port Blair will take off at 5.40 am and reach Port Blair at 7.50 am. The second one will start at 9.20 am and reach at 11.40 am, the airline statement said.

Sri Vijaya Puram, formerly Port Blair, will be the airline's 47th destination.

Commenting on the introduction of these new additions, Alope Singh, Managing Director, Air India Express, said: "We are delighted to announce the expansion of our domestic network to Jammu and the Andaman Islands this holiday season.

AIX continues to scale up its presence in the domestic India market, on the back of a rapidly growing fleet."

"We have recently added stations and capacity in the north-east and south, and now offer a compelling pan-India domestic product, besides our large, short haul international, living up to our mission of being new India's Smart Connector," the statement quoted Singh as saying.

AGENCIES

अब 27 फ्लाइट्स को मिली धमकी

नई दिल्ली। देश में डोमेस्टिक और इंटरनेशनल पैसेंजर्स फ्लाइट में बम की धमकी का सिलसिला जारी है। शुक्रवार को 27 फ्लाइट्स में बम की धमकी मिली। मीडिया रिपोर्ट्स के मुताबिक इंडिगो, विस्तारा और स्पाइसजेट की करीब 7-7 उड़ानों,

■ सुरक्षा व्यवस्था कड़ी की गई

जबकि एयर इंडिया की 6 उड़ानों को धमकी मिली।

इंडिगो की 7 में 6 फ्लाइट जिनको बम की धमकी मिली, उनमें 6ई 2099 (उदयपुर से दिल्ली), 6ई 11 (दिल्ली से इस्तांबुल), 6ई 58 (जेद्दा से मुंबई), 6ई 17 (मुंबई से इस्तांबुल), 6ई 108 (हैदराबाद से चंडीगढ़) और 6ई 133 (पुणे से जोधपुर) शामिल हैं। उदयपुर से दिल्ली की फ्लाइट 6ई 2099 को टेक ऑफ से 10 मिनट पहले धमकी मिली, इसके बाद प्लेन में



लिए खेद व्यक्त करते हैं और ग्राहकों की समझदारी की सराहना करते हैं। इससे एक दिन पहले 80 से ज्यादा उड़ानों को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी मिली थी।

सवार पैसेंजर्स को उतारा गया। फ्लाइट के अंदर और पैसेंजर्स के बैग की जांच की गई। बम की सूचना झूठी निकलने पर साढ़े 3 घंटे बाद फ्लाइट को रवाना किया गया। एयरलाइनों ने प्रेस को जारी एक बयान में कहा, हमारे सख्त सुरक्षा प्रोटोकॉल के अनुसार सभी जरूरी उपाय किए जा रहे हैं और हम संबंधित अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर काम कर रहे हैं। हमारे ग्राहकों और कर्मचारियों की सुरक्षा हमारी सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है। हम इस समय किसी भी असुविधा के

इनमें एयर इंडिया की 20 उड़ान, इंडिगो के 20, विस्तारा के 20 और अकासा एयरलाइन की 25 उड़ाने शामिल थीं। पिछले दो हफ्तों में इस तरह की ढाई सौ से भी ज्यादा धमकियां मिली हैं। इनमें से ज्यादातर धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के जरिए दी गईं। 12 दिनों में 280 से ज्यादा इंडियन फ्लाइट्स में बम की धमकी मिल चुकी है। ज्यादा धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के जरिए दी गई हैं। केंद्र सरकार ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म मेटा और एक्स से फर्जी बम धमकी मैसेज का डेटा शेयर का कहा है।

सरकार ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर फर्जी बम धमकियों को रोकने के लिए एडवाइजरी की जारी

प्लेटफॉर्मों को सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था और सुरक्षा बनाए रखने के लिए गैरकानूनी सामग्री को तुरंत हटाना आवश्यक



नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय ने भारत में संचालित विभिन्न एयरलाइनों द्वारा फर्जी बम धमकियों के प्रसार को रोकने के लिए सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म सहित मध्यस्थों की जिम्मेदारी पर जोर देते हुए एक एडवाइजरी जारी की है। उन्हें समय पर फर्जी धमकियों को हटाने, धमकियों की रिपोर्ट करने और अधिकारियों के साथ सहयोग करने का निर्देश दिया है। स्वयं ही सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2000 और आईटी नियम, 2021 के तहत मध्यस्थों द्वारा उचित परिश्रम का सख्ती से पालन करने का आह्वान किया है। उचित परिश्रम आवश्यकताओं को अनुपालन न करने पर धारा 79 के तहत सुरक्षा रद्द कर दी जाएगी और किसी भी कानून के तहत परिणामी कार्रवाई हो सकती है। इसके अतिरिक्त आईटी नियम, 2021 के तहत सोशल

फर्जी बम की धमकियों की सूचनाओं के प्रसार से सुरक्षा को खतरा
ऐसी एयरलाइनों को होक्स बम धमकियों के रूप में दुर्भावनापूर्ण कृत्यों के उदाहरण सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था और राज्य की सुरक्षा के लिए संभावित खतरा पैदा करते हैं। इस तरह के होक्स बम धमकियां बड़ी संख्या में नागरिकों को प्रभावित करने के साथ-साथ देश की आर्थिक सुरक्षा को भी अस्थिर करती हैं। इसके अलावा, सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर 'फॉरवर्डिंग/री-शेयरिंग/री-पोस्टिंग/री-ट्वीट' के विकल्प की उपलब्धता के कारण इस तरह के होक्स बम धमकियों के प्रसार का पैमाना खतरनाक रूप से अनियंत्रित पाया गया है। इस तरह के होक्स बम धमकियां अधिकतर गलत सूचनाएं होती हैं जो सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था, एयरलाइनों के संचालन और एयरलाइन यात्रियों की सुरक्षा को बड़े पैमाने पर बाधित कर रही हैं।

सरकारी एजेंसियों के साथ करना चाहिए सहयोग
सोशल मीडिया बिचौलियों सहित बिचौलियों को अपने उचित परिश्रम के दायित्वों का पालन करना चाहिए और सख्त समयसीमा के भीतर फर्जी बम धमकियों सहित गैरकानूनी सूचनाओं तक पहुंच को हटाना चाहिए। बिचौलियों को ऐसी गतिविधियों या कथनों की रिपोर्ट करनी चाहिए जो भारत की एकता, अखंडता, संप्रभुता, सुरक्षा या आर्थिक सुरक्षा को खतरा पहुंचाते हैं या खतरा पैदा करने की संभावना रखते हैं। सरकारी एजेंसियों के साथ सहयोग करना चाहिए।

मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्मों को जांच और साइबर सुरक्षा में अधिकृत सरकारी एजेंसियों की समय पर सहायता करने को बाध्यता है; लेकिन 72 घंटे से अधिक नहीं। मंत्रालय ने इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि सोशल मीडिया बिचौलियों को आईटी अधिनियम, 2000, आईटी (मध्यस्थ दिशा-निर्देश और डिजिटल मीडिया आचार संहिता) नियम, 2021 और भारतीय न्याय संहिता (बीएनएस), 2023 का पालन करना चाहिए और इन प्लेटफॉर्मों को सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था और सुरक्षा बनाए रखने के लिए गैरकानूनी सामग्री को तुरंत हटाना आवश्यक है।

बम की दो फर्जी सूचना देने वाला गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): दिल्ली के इंदिरा गांधी एयरपोर्ट पर बम होने संबंधित दो झूठी सूचनाएं देने के मामले में पुलिस ने एक युवक को गिरफ्तार किया है। आरोपी की पहचान शुभम उपाध्याय के रूप में हुई है और उसे उत्तम नगर इलाके से दबोचा है। पुलिस का कहना है कि, इस शख्स ने शुक्रवार और शनिवार को दर्मियानी रात को सोशल मीडिया के जरिए आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट पर बम होने की सूचना दी थी। हालांकि जांच के बाद यह खबर झूठी साबित हुई थी। आईजीआई एयरपोर्ट की डीसीपी उषा रंगानानी ने बताया कि मामले में केस दर्ज करते हुए झूठी खबर को देने वाले शख्स का पता लगाया और आरोपी शुभम उपाध्याय को उत्तम नगर



के राजापुरी इलाके से गिरफ्तार कर लिया। युवक बारहवीं तक पढ़ा है और बेरोजगार है। पुलिस पूछताछ के दौरान आरोपी ने बताया कि उसने टैबी पर इस तरह की खबरें देखकर लोगों का ध्यान अपनी ओर खींचने के लिए ये मैसेज भेजे थे।

फिर 30 से अधिक उड़ानों में बम रखने की धमकी

देशभर में शनिवार को 33 उड़ानों में बम रखे होने की धमकी मिली। जानकारी के अनुसार, 13 दिनों में भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों द्वारा संचालित 300 से अधिक उड़ानों में बम रखे होने झूठी धमकियां मिली हैं। अधिकांश धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से दी गईं। धमकियों के बीच, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (आईटी) मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया मंचों से कहा कि वे उचित सावधानी बरतें और आईटी नियमों के तहत निर्धारित समयसीमा के भीतर गलत सूचना तक पहुंच को तुरंत हटाएं। मामले से जुड़े एक वॉरंट अधिकारी ने बताया कि इंडिगो, एअर इंडिया और विस्तारा के 11-11 उड़ानों को शनिवार को धमकियां मिलीं। एअर इंडिया के प्रवक्ता ने एक बयान में बताया कि शनिवार को सोशल मीडिया पर उसकी कई उड़ानों को सुरक्षा संबंधी धमकियां मिली थीं। प्रवक्ता ने बताया, निर्धारित प्रोटोकॉल का पालन करते हुए संबंधित अधिकारियों को तुरंत स्तर्क किया गया और नियामक अधिकारियों के दिशा-निर्देशों के अनुसार सभी सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं का सख्ती से अनुपालन किया गया।

गुजरात : वडोदरा में C-295 विमान की फैक्टरी तैयार

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और स्पेन के उनके समकक्ष पेद्रो सांचेज गुजरात के वडोदरा में टाटा विमान विनिर्माण इकाई का सोमवार को उद्घाटन करेंगे। टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स इस इकाई में सी-295 विमान का निर्माण करेगा। पीएमओ ने शनिवार को एक बयान में कहा कि यह भारत में निजी क्षेत्र की पहली ऐसी इकाई होगी, जिसमें अलग-अलग स्थान पर तैयार कलपुर्जों को आपस में जोड़कर सैन्य विमान को साकार रूप दिया जाएगा। अपने गृह राज्य गुजरात के दूर के दौरान मोदी अमरेली में 4,900 करोड़ रुपये की विकास परियोजनाओं का भी उद्घाटन करेंगे। पीएमओ ने बताया कि समझौते के तहत वडोदरा इकाई में 40 सी-295 विमान तैयार किए जाएंगे, जबकि विमानन कंपनी एयरबस 16 विमान की सीधी आपूर्ति करेगी।

पीएमओ के अनुसार, भारत में 40 सी-295 विमान तैयार करने की जिम्मेदारी टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम पर है और वडोदरा में टाटा की इकाई भारत में निजी क्षेत्र की पहली ऐसी 'फाइनल असेंबली लाइन (एफएएल)' होगी, जिसमें अलग-अलग स्थान पर तैयार कलपुर्जों को आपस में जोड़कर सैन्य विमान को साकार रूप दिया जाएगा। इकाई में एक संपूर्ण पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का पूर्ण विकास शामिल होगा, जिसमें निर्माण से लेकर कलपुर्जों को जोड़ने, परीक्षण, मंजूरी, आपूर्ति



■ मोदी व स्पेन के पीएम कल संयुक्त रूप से करेंगे उद्घाटन

और रखरखाव तक, विमान का पूरा जीवन चक्र समाहित होगा। बयान के मुताबिक, टाटा के अलावा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की प्रमुख रक्षा इकाइयां-भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और भारत डायनैमिक्स और निजी सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम इस परियोजना में योगदान देंगे।

मोदी ने अक्टूबर 2022 में वडोदरा 'फाइनल असेंबली लाइन' की आधारशिला रखी थी। प्रधानमंत्री अमरेली के दुधाला में 'भारत माता' सरोवर का उद्घाटन करेंगे। यह परियोजना सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी (पीपीपी) मॉडल के तहत राज्य सरकार और डोलकिया फाउंडेशन के बीच सहयोग के माध्यम से विकसित की गई है। मोदी विभिन्न रेल, सड़क, जल और पर्यटन परियोजनाओं का भी उद्घाटन करेंगे, जिससे राज्य के अमरेली, जामनगर, मोरबी, देवभूमि द्वारका, जूनागढ़, पोरबंदर, कच्छ और बोटदा जिले के लोगों को फायदा होगा।

Corporate Communications Directorate

SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

26 OCTOBER 2024

धर्मशाला-चंडीगढ़ के लिए छह दिन होगी हवाई उड़ान

कांगड़ा। दिवाली पर धर्मशाला-चंडीगढ़ हवाई रूट के यात्रियों के लिए विमानन कंपनी इंडिगो ने तोहफा दिया है। 28 अक्टूबर से अब इस रूट पर रविवार को छोड़कर हर दिन उड़ान होगी। अभी हफ्ते में तीन दिन उड़ानें हो रही हैं। गगल एयरपोर्ट के लिए 27 अक्टूबर से 26 मार्च 2025 तक के लिए शीतकालीन शेड्यूल जारी हुआ है। इस नए शेड्यूल के मुताबिक गगल एयरपोर्ट पर स्पाइस जेट, इंडिगो और एलायंस एयर विभिन्न हवाई रूटों पर अपनी सेवाएं देंगे। यह उड़ानें दिल्ली, शिमला और चंडीगढ़ के लिए रहेंगी। इस नए शेड्यूल के मुताबिक जहां स्पाइस जेट कंपनी की जहां दिल्ली-धर्मशाला हवाई रूट पर एक सेवा बंद हुई है, वहीं इंडिगो कंपनी ने धर्मशाला-चंडीगढ़ हवाई रूट पर रविवार को छोड़ कर हर दिन उड़ान भरेगा। इसके लिए विमानन कंपनी ने अपनी अधिकारिक वेबसाइट पर शेड्यूल भी अपलोड कर दिया है। 28 अक्टूबर को चंडीगढ़-धर्मशाला हवाई रूट पर किराया 4,289 रुपये दर्शा रहा है, वहीं 31 अक्टूबर से यह किराया घटकर 3,894 रुपये तक पहुंच गया है। इसके अलावा धर्मशाला-चंडीगढ़ हवाई रूट पर 28 अक्टूबर को 4,387 रुपये में उड़ान होगी, वहीं इसके बाद यह किराया घट कर 3,894 रुपये तक दर्ज किया गया है। 27 अक्टूबर से शेड्यूल में बदलाव होगा। इस दौरान क्या-क्या बदलाव होगा, इस बारे में जल्द ही सूचना दे दी जाएगी।

SpiceJet settles \$4m dispute with Shannon

OUR SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi: Budget carrier SpiceJet on Friday announced it has settled a \$4.5 million dispute with Shannon Engine Support Ltd (SES) for an aggregate sum of \$2 million.

Both parties — SpiceJet and Shanon Engine Support — have reached this agreement through amicable negotiations, choosing to resolve the matter outside the courtroom, the airline said.

As part of the settlement, all ongoing litigations and disputes between the parties will be withdrawn at the appropriate forums, it added.

This settlement with Shannon Engine Support follows three other financial agreements by the airline in recent weeks, SpiceJet said in a statement.

On October 15, SpiceJet announced it had successfully settled a \$23.39 million dispute with Aircastle (Ireland) Designated Activity Company and Wilmington Trust SP Services (Dublin) Limited for an aggregate sum of \$5 million.

On October 9, the airline successfully resolved a \$131.85 million dispute with lessors Horizon Aviation 1, Horizon II Aviation 3, and Horizon III Aviation 2 (under the management of Babcock & Brown Aircraft Management) for \$22.5 million.

On September 24, the company had settled a dispute with Engine Lease Finance Corporation (ELFC), which initially claimed \$16.7 million, for a lower amount".

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

26 OCTOBER 2024

IndiGo suffers ₹987cr loss in Q2

OUR SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT

Mumbai: InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of budget carrier IndiGo, slipped back into the red on higher fuel costs and grounding of planes in a seasonally weak quarter.

IndiGo posted a net loss of ₹986.7 crore on Friday compared with a profit of ₹188.9 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year and ₹2,728.8 crore in the preceding three months.

The net loss, which came after seven profitable quarters, was higher than estimates. Brokerages had forecast a loss of ₹130-240 crore.

During the quarter, IndiGo's revenue increased 13.55

per cent to ₹16,969.6 crore from ₹14,943.9 crore a year ago.

Total expenses jumped 21.9 per cent to ₹18,666.1 crore from ₹15,313.8 crore.

Fuel expenses rose 12.8 per cent ₹6,605.2 crore from ₹5,856 crore.

Aircraft and engine rentals costs soared 290.5 per cent to ₹763.6 crore from ₹195.6 crore.

"IndiGo's growth and expansion continued as our topline grew by 14.6 per cent on a year-over-year basis in the second quarter to ₹17,800 crore. Our results were impacted by headwinds in groundings and fuel costs, in a traditionally weak quarter," CEO Pieter Elbers said.

"We have turned the corner as the number of ground-

GROUND REALITY		
Quarter ended September		
(₹ crore)	2023	2024
Revenues	14943	16969
Expenses	15313	18666
Net profit	188	(986)



ed aircraft and associated costs have started reducing. We continue to capitalise on the growth of the Indian market and at the same time remain a cost leader in this competitive market."

During the earnings call, IndiGo chief financial officer Gaurav Negi said the number of grounded aircraft will come down to sub-60 level by year-end and further reduce to 40s by the start of the next financial year.

At the end of September, the carrier had a fleet of 110 planes.

Elbers said IndiGo would launch its business class in the Delhi-Mumbai route in two weeks. It will be offered later in 12 other routes.

The airline has also received a positive response to its loyalty rewards programme—IndiGo BluChip.

During the period, the number of passengers increased 5.8 per cent to ₹,780

crore and the yield — passenger ticket revenue for every revenue passenger kilometer — increased 2.3 per cent to ₹4.55.

Issues with engines made by Pratt & Whitney had grounded more than 70 aircraft last year, weighing on its bottom line, as the airline extended leases on older jets and hired more new ones.

IndiGo has a nearly 63 per cent market share in India and is also Asia's biggest carrier by market valuation, according to Reuters.

India, the world's fastest growing aviation market, aims to become a global aviation hub, with airlines, including IndiGo, placing record jet orders.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

26 OCTOBER 2024

“ Results were impacted by headwinds in groundings and fuel costs, in a traditionally weak quarter

Pieter Elbers,
IndiGo CEO



Curb hoaxes or face action, govt tells social media cos

New Delhi: Govt has issued a strict advisory to social media companies such as X and Meta, warning them to take immediate action to curb the spread of hoax bomb threats targeting flights or face criminal and penal consequences under BNS and IT Act.

Over the past two weeks,

► **After flights, 23 hotels in 3 states get threats, P 13**

nearly 400 flights operated by Indian carriers have received threat messages through social media and emails, disrupting schedules, causing flight diversions, and inflicting fi-

Jobless youth in city held for bomb hoax

An unemployed man was arrested for sending hoax bomb threats to several flights and IGI airport. Shubham Upadhyay, a resident of city's Uttam Nagar, claimed to have sent messages after seeing similar news reports. **P 6**

nancial losses on airlines. Some international flights operated by foreign carriers were also affected. **TNN**

► **'Lose safe harbour', P 26**

Curb hoax calls or lose 'safe harbour', social media cos told

► **Continued from P 1**

The warning signals govt's intent to crack down on the misuse of social media platforms to prevent further disruptions to the aviation sector due to bomb hoaxes.

The ministry of electronics and IT said Friday: "The scale of spread of such hoax bomb threats has been observed to be dangerously unrestrained due to the availability of the option of 'forwarding/re-sharing/re-posting/re-tweeting' on the social media platforms. Such hoax bomb threats are mostly misinformation that is massively disrupting public order, operations of airlines, and the security of airline travellers."

The advisory directed social media intermediaries to "observe their due diligence obligations that include the



The govt missive pointed to the option of forwarding, re-sharing etc on social media platforms as having a role in the scale of spread of hoax bomb threats

prompt removal or disabling access to such unlawful information specified under the IT Rules, 2021, including hoax bomb threats, well within the strict timelines as prescribed under the IT Rules, 2021".

Beyond compliance with IT rules, govt reminded platforms that they also bear additional responsibilities un-

der BNSS. This includes the obligation to report offences that involve threats to the unity, integrity, sovereignty or economic security of India.

Failure to comply, the advisory warned, would result in the loss of the "safe harbour" protection granted to intermediaries under Section 79 of IT Act, which shields them from liability for third-party content. The advisory further cautioned that intermediaries failing to meet these obligations would be subject to legal action under applicable laws.

The ministry highlighted the economic impact of the threats: "Airlines have lost hundreds of crores because of this nuisance." It also highlighted the broader threat: "Such hoax bomb threats, while affecting a large number of citizens, also destabilise the economic security of the country."



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

26 OCTOBER 2024

Flight from Chandigarh faces bomb hoax

Ahmedabad: Yet another bomb threat reported at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) airport in Ahmedabad on Friday turned out to be a hoax.

About 80-90 tweets were posted on the micro-blogging platform X, citing a bomb scare for some 80-odd flights. The posts were later removed. This time, the threat was issued to Chandigarh-Ahmedabad Indigo flight 6E 112.

Flight 6E 112, operating from Chandigarh to Ahmedabad, received a security alert while it was mid-air, according to airport sources. The flight landed at the Ahmedabad airport around 1.30 pm.

"Upon landing, the aircraft was taken to the isolation bay and all customers were safely disembarked," an IndiGo Airlines spokesperson told TOI.

This is the 10th incident of a bomb threat handled at the SVPI airport since May 2024 and the sixth in the past 12 days. **TNN**



Corporate Communications Directorate

TRIBUNE

NEW DELHI

26 OCTOBER 2024

AI Express flights to Jammu from December 1

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 25

Air India Express will start non-stop flights to Jammu and Sri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair) from December 1.

"Jammu will be connected with direct flights to Delhi and Srinagar. On the same day (December 1), Air India Express will start direct flights from Sri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair) to Bengaluru and Kolkata," the airline said in a release on Friday.

Air India Express Managing Director Alope Singh said the airline continues to scale up its presence in the domestic market on the back of a rapidly growing fleet. "We have recently added stations and capacity in the North-East and South, and now offer a compelling pan-India domestic product..." he added. —PTI