

AAI 'fixes' design flaw at new airport terminal

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PATNA: In a last-minute manoeuvre, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been able to temporarily tide over an architectural design flaw in the newly constructed terminal building of the Jayprakash Narayan International (JPNI) airport here, by removing a partition, separating the international and domestic departure lounge, to provide passengers access to the staircase in the security hold area (SHA), before Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates it on May 29, said people aware of the matter on Monday.

Unlike most airports in India, the new terminal building of Patna airport does not have staircase alongside escalators to connect the three levels of the building through the SHA.

The design flaw was detected recently at inspection stage, when final clearances through the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) were in process. The matter was urgently flagged with Sikka Associate Architects (SAA), New Delhi, responsible for its architectural design, said a senior functionary requesting anonymity. Two revised design plans were sent to accommodate a staircase in the domestic SHA from the exterior side of the building, said the official.

"There was an access issue earlier to the staircase in the



Jayprakash Narayan International airport

SOURCED PIC

domestic departure SHA. We resolved it last Friday (May 23) by removing a partition internally, which now provides access to two separate staircases in the SHA. There is one staircase now for access through the international departure lounge and another for the domestic lounge. The domestic side (passenger) circulation issue of accessibility through staircase in SHA has been resolved," said Ashwani Kumar, project director of the Sikka Associate Architects, handling the Patna airport project.

Earlier, passengers could access the base and mezzanine floors of the domestic departure lounge only through the eight lifts and two sets of escalators available in the SHA of the domestic departure lounge. As such, any last-minute change in the boarding gate of passengers, necessitating their movement from the mezzanine to the base floor of the departure lounge, or in case of any exigency like fire, could cause chaos. Some passengers, averse to step on the escalator, also prefer staircase, said

officials. The mezzanine floor of the domestic departure lounge provides access to the passenger boarding bridge (PBB) or the aerobridge. Only one of the five proposed aerobridges would be functional initially. The other four were expected in the next six months, said officials.

There were also issues with water leakage at level II of the inline baggage scanning system inside the terminal building. Besides, water supply issues also remained to be sorted out in some washrooms inside the terminal. AAI also awaits security clearance of the commercial area floor plan of the terminal building from the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, as it rushes through last-minute preparations ahead of the inauguration.

AAI had also flagged a discrepancy in the gate nomenclature of the new integrated terminal building. While the departure gates were clearly labelled as D1, D2, D3, and so on, the arrival gates were marked as IA, 2A, and so on, instead of A1, A2 to ensure consistency and clarity for passengers.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

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After Delhi and Mumbai, Turkey-based Celebi takes legal battle to Madras HC

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, MAY 27

AFTER MOVING the Delhi High Court and the Bombay High Court, Turkey-headquartered airport ground handling major Celebi has now knocked on the doors of the Madras High Court as part of its legal battle against Indian aviation authorities and airports following the revocation of its security clearance in India — a key market — and the consequent termination of its contracts by various Indian airports.

One of Celebi's Indian subsidiaries — Celebi GS Chennai Pvt Ltd — has filed two arbitration applications and a request for interim measures against the Airports Authority of India (AAI) before the Madras High Court against the termination of its contract at the AAI-operated Chennai International Airport.

"...our subsidiary, Celebi GS Chennai Pvt Ltd, 100 per cent of whose capital belongs to our company, filed two arbitration applications with a request for interim measures against the AAI at the High Court of Judicature at Madras on 26.05.2025 and 27.05.2025 regarding the unjust unilateral termination of the Ground Handling Concession Agreement regarding CGSC's operations in Chennai International Airport due to the cancellation of the security permit of CGSC by the Civil Aviation

CELEBI'S CHENNAI UNIT SEEKS RELIEF

■ One of Celebi's Indian subsidiaries — Celebi GS Chennai Pvt Ltd — has filed two arbitration applications and a request for interim measures against the Airports Authority of India (AAI) before the Madras High Court against the termination of its contract at the AAI-operated Chennai International Airport

Security Bureau of the Ministry of Civil Aviation of India on the grounds that it poses a threat to national security," parent company Celebi Hava Servisi said in a regulatory filing in Istanbul.

The lawsuits follow cases filed by three other Celebi subsidiaries — Celebi Airport Services India, Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management India, and Celebi Nas Airport Services India — before the Delhi HC and the Bombay HC against the security clearance revocation and the resultant cancellation of Celebi contracts by the operators of Delhi and Mumbai airports.

Amid the backlash in India over Turkey's support for Pakistan in the India-Pakistan conflict, India's aviation security regulator BCAS on May 15 revoked the

security clearance of an Indian arm — Celebi Airport Services India — of Celebi on grounds related to "national security" with immediate effect. The revocation also applies to other associate entities of Celebi in India. This led to Indian airports terminating their contracts with Celebi group companies. Defending itself, Celebi Airport Services India said that it is "truly an Indian enterprise" led and managed by Indian professionals, and is "not a Turkish organisation by any standard".

Celebi, which operated through five units at nine Indian airports, is challenging the revocation of its security clearance and the resultant cancellation of contracts by the airports before various courts. Celebi has argued before the courts that the revocation of its security clearance was in violation of due procedure and natural justice as the Centre suddenly cancelled the clearance without notice and any opportunity for the company to make its case. On its part, the government has argued that it can exercise its plenary powers in the interest of national security and aviation security.

The Delhi HC reserved its order in the case, while a vacation bench of the Bombay HC granted temporary relief by restraining Mumbai International Airport Ltd from finalising the tender to replace Celebi's unit till the matter is heard by the regular court.



Delhi clears Rs 9 cr tender for 6 new air monitoring stations

AWAITS NOCS FOR THE ARTIFICIAL RAIN PROJECT

NEW DELHI: The Delhi government has cleared a tender for installing six new air quality monitoring stations at a total cost of nearly Rs 9 crore and applied for NOCs for the artificial rain project.

Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said the tenders for these monitoring stations have been approved and the setup work will begin soon. "Now that the tender process is complete, these stations will be installed in the coming months," he stated.

Each station is expected to cost around Rs 1.5 crore, taking the total expenditure to nearly Rs 9 crore. With this addition, the number of air quality monitoring stations in the capital will rise to 46.

To boost the city's air quality surveillance, the Delhi government, in its 2025-26 budget, announced the installation of six new air quality monitoring stations at key locations, including JNU, IGNOU, and



Delhi Cantonment.

Meanwhile, providing an update on the artificial rain project, Sirsa said the government is committed to ensuring more clean air days during the winter season and is actively working to reduce pollution levels. The environment department has applied for No Objection Certificates (NOCs) and is currently receiving queries from various departments, including the Ministry of Defence, regarding the proposal.

The government needs NOCs from 13 key departments, including the Director-

ate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the Ministry of Defence, the Airports Authority of India (AAI), and others for the trial to proceed.

Sirsa added that a trial for artificial rain is likely to be conducted in June, coinciding with the onset of the monsoon, in Outer Delhi areas, possibly toward the Delhi-Sonepat border.

Earlier, officials said that the government plans to conduct five cloud-seeding trials, each involving aircraft operations lasting between one to one-and-a-half hours. These trials will be carried out on sep-

'If suitable weather is observed, we may conduct all five trials within a week or with gaps of a day or two'

arate days and may take place in quick succession, depending on weather conditions.

"If suitable weather is observed, we may conduct all five trials within a week or with gaps of a day or two. The schedule will depend on cloud availability," an official said.

IIT Kanpur is overseeing the entire project -- from planning to execution -- and will select trial sites based on scientific and logistical parameters.

The Delhi Cabinet approved the Rs 3.21 crore project on May 7, with Rs 2.75 crore allocated for the trials at Rs 55 lakh per trial. AGENCIES



Corporate Communications Directorate

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Fun park, boating to debut soon at Bharat Vandana

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New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) plans to open half of the recreational facilities at Bharat Vandana Park to the public by June.

The much-awaited 200-acre facility will showcase India's cultural heritage, linguistic and geographical diversity through 10 distinct petals, with water bodies covering 25% of the space, including two restored water features.

The place will have monuments from all states and Union territories at the Mini India Petal, a fun park, souvenir and art and craft shops, local cuisine kiosks, performance plazas, a huge water body with boating facility la-

king areas is also progressing and is expected to be completed by June 2025," the official said. A key feature will be a 1.2-km skywalk that will both metres high, supported by nine pylons, each 45 metres tall. Although the Airport Authority of India (AAI) approved the plans, construction is progressing cautiously due to challenges related to the height of the structures.

"Currently around 100 workers are engaged in the construction of the pylons and skywalk, in addition to the workforce stationed at the off-site fabrication yard. Delivery of the skywalk bridge segments is under way and erection work has started at the site. Given the challenging working conditions at a height of 45



The fun park will feature animatronic installations

ke view restaurants, an adventure park, an eco-zone, and a huge parking lot. DDA has set the completion deadline at Feb 2026.

"We have completed 80% of the work at the site, and a decision was taken to open the facilities to the public in phases, beginning June 30. The recreation facility will increase the footfall and the interest of people living in the neighbourhood as well as other parts of the city," the official said.

Among the activities and areas expected to open by the end of June are the Meditation Zone, Vandana Sarovar, Fun park, Lake View Restaurants, Co-regional Zone, and boating. The Fun Park will feature animatronic installations. Recreational activities are expected to open by the end of Dec.

"The construction of par-

metres and operational constraints on crane heights imposed by AAI, the main structural work of the skywalk is expected to be completed by Dec," stated the authority.

While the project belongs to DDA, its execution is being done by the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC). "Since taking charge, lieutenant governor VK Saxena has been regularly taking stock of the development work of Bharat Vandana Park," said the official further.

DDA will also arrange for the supply of 90,000 cubic metres of water through STPs to fill the main sarovar once and then 1,000 cubic metres of treated water supply every day to maintain these water bodies. "We will also channel rainwater and construct six storage tanks, each with a capacity of 2,000 cubic metres," the official said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

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Canopy at IGI's Terminal 1 partially collapses amid heavy rains

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

The canopy at the arrival forecourt of the Delhi airport's Terminal 1 partially collapsed on Sunday morning due to heavy rains and strong winds, according to a source. The revamped Terminal 1 (T1) was recently opened for flight operations at the national capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), which is also the country's largest and busiest airport.

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

was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal. The statement did not directly mention about the canopy collapse.

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

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

As many as 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted at the airport between 11:30 pm on Saturday and 4 am on Sunday, a source said earlier in the day. In the statement, DIAL said the national capital experienced an intense thunderstorm accompanied by heavy rainfall during the intervening night of May 24.

Adverse weather forces 49 flight diversions at IGI Airport

TDG NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Following heavy rain accompanied by strong winds in the national capital in the early hours of Sunday, 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted between 11:30 pm and 4 am.

"Due to adverse weather conditions in Delhi, 49 flights were diverted between 11:30 pm and 4 am. Normal services restored," Delhi Airport sources said.

49 flights included 17 international flights, Airport sources added.

The Delhi Airport issued a passenger advisory at 06:50 am on Sunday.

In a post on X, Delhi Airport stated, "Due to adverse weather conditions last night, some flights have been impacted. Passengers are advised to check their flight status regularly and stay in touch with airline staff for updates. Our on-

ground teams are diligently working with all stakeholders to ensure a seamless and efficient passenger experience."

Meanwhile, the temperature dropped by 8 to 10 degrees Celsius from 31 to 22 degrees Celsius, as seen from Lodhi Road data.

The temperature fell between 1:15 am to 02:30 am today morning due to the thunderstorm.

In the Safdarjung Airport the temperature dropped from 31.0°C to 21.0°C. In the Palam Airport from 29.0°C to 22.0°C. In Pusa it fell from 31.8°C to 20.5°C. In Pragati Maidan temperature fell from 31.4°C to 21.3°C. In Lodhi Road temperature dropped from 31.0°C to 22.3°C.

In the past 24 hours, rainfall over Delhi observed at 08:30 hrs IST today at Lodhi Road was 69.6 mm, at Aya Nagar it was 37.0 mm,

at Safdarjung it was 81.4 mm, Palam reported 68.5 mm, and Ridge reported 69.1 mm.

Areas affected include Moti Bagh, Minto Road, and near Delhi Airport Terminal 1. Visuals from Delhi's Minto Road showed a car submerged due to severe waterlogging caused by the heavy rainfall. Clearance work was carried out at the Akbar Road after several trees fell due to storms and heavy rainfall last night in the NCR.

Severe waterlogging was witnessed in several parts of Delhi after the heavy rains. Traffic congestion and slow vehicular movement were witnessed at Dhaura Kuan.

Severe waterlogging was witnessed in Nanakpura Underpass following heavy rainfall. The heavy rain accompanied by thunderstorms also lashed several parts of Haryana's Jhajjar.

गुरुग्राम से दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट आना होगा आसान, द्वारका एक्सप्रेसवे की टनल कल से खुलेगी

जागरण संवाददाता, गुरुग्राम: गुरुग्राम, सोहना और जयपुर की तरफ से आने वाले लोगों को दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट आने में आसानी होगी। द्वारका एक्सप्रेसवे पर दिल्ली क्षेत्र में बन रही ढाई किमी की टनल का काम पूरा हो चुका है। इसे पहले फेस में 29 मई से हर दिन तीन-तीन घंटे के लिए खोला जाएगा। दोपहर 12 से तीन बजे के बीच वाहन चालक इस टनल का प्रयोग कर सकेंगे। वाहनों का दबाव चेक करने के बाद इसे दूसरे फेस में पूरी तरह से खोलने पर निर्णय लिया जा सकता है।

मंगलवार दोपहर दिल्ली, गुरुग्राम के यातायात पुलिस और एनएचएआइ के अधिकारियों ने टनल का मौका मुआयना कर वाहनों के लिए इसे पहले फेस में तीन-तीन घंटे के लिए खोलने का सर्वसम्मति



दिल्ली में द्वारका एक्सप्रेसवे की टनल का निरीक्षण करते अधिकारी • सो. पुलिस

से निर्णय लिया। ऐसा इसलिए, क्योंकि दोपहर के समय गुरुग्राम और जयपुर की तरफ से एयरपोर्ट जाने वाले वाहनों का दबाव रहता है। ऐसे में इस टनल के खुलने से वाहन चालकों को एयरपोर्ट पहुंचने में आसानी होगी। वाहन चालकों को द्वारका एक्सप्रेसवे का अच्छा विकल्प मिलने से दिल्ली-गुरुग्राम

एक्सप्रेसवे पर भी वाहनों का दबाव कम हो सकता है। यातायात पुलिस अधिकारियों ने कहा कि दूसरे चरण में टनल खोलने के लिए भी जल्द निर्णय लिया जाएगा। इस टनल में फिलहाल टू व्हीलर, थ्री व्हीलर, पानी टैंकर, गैस टैंकर, ट्रैक्टर-ट्राली व अन्य कम गति से चलने वाले वाहनों का प्रवेश वर्जित रहेगा।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK NAVJYOTI

JAIPUR

27 MAY 2025

जयपुर एयरपोर्ट को मिला ACI लेवल 3 एक्कीडेशन

व्यूरो/नवज्योति, जयपुर। जयपुर अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट को एयरपोर्ट कौंसिल इंटरनेशनल (एसीआई) की तरफ से एक और नई उपलब्धि हासिल हुई। जयपुर एयरपोर्ट को निर्बाध और उच्च कोटि का यात्री अनुभव प्रदान करने के लिए एयरपोर्ट कौंसिल इंटरनेशनल ने लेवल 3 एक्कीडेशन प्राप्त हुआ है। लेवल 3 एक्कीडेशन यात्रियों के एयरपोर्ट पर अनुभवों के आधार पर दिया जाता है, इसके साथ ही ये एक्कीडेशन ग्राहक अनुभव के निरंतर सुधार में एयरपोर्ट की प्रतिबद्धता को एसीआई ग्राहक अनुभव प्रत्यायन कार्यक्रम के तहत मान्यता प्रदान करता है।

एसीआई लेवल 3 एक्कीडेशन कर्मचारियों और हितधारकों की बहुमुखी भागीदारी के माध्यम से उन्नत ग्राहक अनुभव रणनीति को बढ़ावा देने के लिए दी जाती है। लेवल 3 मान्यता प्राप्त करना हवाई अड्डे की

सेवा नवाचार, संस्कृति, शासन, संचालन सुधार, रणनीति और ग्राहक समझ जैसे क्षेत्रों में उन्नत प्रवासों के कार्यान्वयन को दर्शाता है। जयपुर एयरपोर्ट को एसीआई



2023 में लेवल 1 और 2024 में लेवल 2 एक्कीडेशन से सम्मानित किया गया था। यात्री अनुभव निरंतर सुधार और इसे और बेहतर बनाने के लिए एयरपोर्ट की प्रतिबद्धता को मान्यता देते हुए इस साल एसीआई ने जयपुर एयरपोर्ट को लेवल 3 एक्कीडेशन से सम्मानित किया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

27 MAY 2025

Replacement of Celebi: HC restrains MIAL

Urvi Mahajani

MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Monday passed an interim order restraining Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) from taking a final decision on tenders invited on May 17 to replace Turkish firm Celebi for ground and bridge handling services at the international airport here.

The court said no final decision shall be taken on the tenders till the pleas by Celebi are heard in June. Celebi Nas Airport Services India Pvt Ltd filed three separate petitions before the court. The company termed the revocation of security clearance and termination of its concession agreements as arbitrary.

The petitions challenge the cancellation of security clearance by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), which the company claims led to the immediate and unilateral termination of its concession agreement with MIAL. Celebi has sought suspension and annulment of the BCAS decision, and has named the Union of India, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, BCAS, Airports Authority of India, and the Regional Office of Civil Aviation (Mumbai) as respondents.

HC stops Mum airport from hiring Celebi's replacement

Interim relief for Turkish ground handling firm till its case is heard against contract termination

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MUMBAI: The Bombay high court on Monday granted interim relief to the Indian subsidiary of the Turkish ground-handling firm Celebi Aviation Holding by issuing directions to the Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) to not take any decision in extending tenders to appoint a new company in its place. The temporary relief is to remain till the challenge against its security clearance revocation is heard before a regular bench after the vacation.

The firm on May 22 had filed three petitions in the court, challenging the Indian government's revocation of its security clearance which resulted in the termination of its agreement at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA). The petition urged the court to issue directions to restrain the airport authorities from appointing a new company in its place.



MIAL terminated its agreement with Celebi earlier this month after the government revoked its security clearance. SATISH BATE/HT

The petition was filed days after the Adani Group-led MIAL, which operates CSMIA, terminated its agreement with Celebi and appointed the Kolkata-based firm Indo Thai Airport Services on a temporary basis for three months until it finalises a long-term partner.

CSMIA was among several airports across the country that terminated their agreements with Celebi earlier this month. This was after the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), India's top aviation security regulator, revoked the Turkish firm's security clearance, effectively barring it from continuing its operations in Indian airports. The decision, according to BCAS, was taken in

view of "national interests".

While the official reasons were not detailed, the move follows heightened diplomatic tensions. Turkey recently backed Pakistan and condemned India's counter-terrorism strikes in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir following the Pahalgam terror attack in April.

In response to the revocation, Celebi's Indian subsidiary issued a statement distancing itself from political or national affiliations. "We are not a Turkish organisation by any standard and adhere fully to globally accepted practices of corporate governance, transparency and neutrality, with no political affiliations or links to any foreign

government or individuals," the company said.

Celebi filed three separate lawsuits, two of which challenged MIAL's revocation of its contract on the grounds of security clearance. The third plea is filed against BCAS, which states that the agency's decision was procedurally erroneous.

On May 16, Celebi had filed a similar petition in the Delhi high court, even as aviation officials said that airport operations nationwide continued without disruption as alternative arrangements were implemented. In its plea, the company said that BCAS's decision to revoke its clearance by merely citing national security, without specific justification, was "vague" and "unsustainable in law".

Celebi Aviation has had a significant presence in India's aviation sector. Since entering the Indian market via Mumbai Airport, the company has expanded to nine airports across the country. These include Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Cochin, Kannur, Goa, and Ahmedabad. The firm's Indian operations cover a wide range of services, including passenger assistance, flight operations, cargo handling, warehouse management and bridge operation services.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

27 MAY 2025

Laser beam strikes flight during arrival at city airport

The Emirates flight from Dubai, however, landed safely. Five instances of such laser beam interference, which is categorised under 'dangerous and hazardous incidents', were reported this month

PORT CALL

Sunitha Sekar
CHENNAI

Around 8.15 p.m. on Sunday, as an Emirates B777-300 flight from Dubai was making its descent to the city airport, a green laser light struck the aircraft.

The pilot immediately reported the incident to the Air Traffic Control

(ATC), who informed the police.

A day prior to this incident, a Gulf Air flight faced the same issue. In the month of May alone, there were five instances of laser beam interference experienced by flights landing at the Chennai airport, making it difficult for pilots to manoeuvre the aircraft.

"When the flight was around six nautical miles away from touchdown, the pilot encountered the is-

sue and reported it to the ATC. The flashing of the laser stopped abruptly, and the flight landed safely at the 25-end (Guindy end) of the main runway," a source said.

Laser beam interference is dangerous and categorised under 'hazardous incidents'.

Serious concern

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has underscored



Potential hazard: In 2023, 144 cases of laser interference were reported during landing and take-off in the country. FILE PHOTO

the seriousness of this issue, especially when it occurs during critical phases of flight such as landing,

approach and take-off, and how it could impact the pilot. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation, in its

National Aviation Safety Plan 2024-2028, said: "Aiming a laser at an aircraft, especially during approach and landing, may blind the flight crew and lead to a loss of control during a critical phase of flight, potentially causing a serious incident/accident. Public awareness is essential for preventing the occurrence of such incidents."

In 2023, 144 cases of laser interference were re-

ported during landing and take-off in the country.

'Difficult to trace'

"It is also difficult to trace and locate the individuals in such cases. We can only raise awareness, which we have been consistently doing. We keep highlighting the issue in the Airfield Environment Management Committee meetings as well," a source said.

Usually, there are just one or two instances of

these incidents, but weddings or other events can lead to an increase in such cases, according to sources.

"From toys to small-scale events, access to lasers have become so common. The only thing we can do is sensitise people to its adverse impact on aircraft. Moreover, the use of laser beam lights should be barred within the vicinity of the airport," another source said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

27 MAY 2025

HC halts MIAL tender move on Celebi's plea

Mumbai: Bombay HC's vacation bench on Monday restrained Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL) from making a final decision on bids invited on May 17 to replace a Turkiye-based company's Indian arm for ground and bridge handling services, reports **Swati Deshpande**. The decision will remain in effect till a regular bench, after reopening, hears the challenge raised by the entity to its security clearance revocation.

On May 15, BCAS, citing security concerns, had revoked the clearance granted to Celebi Airport Services. Celebi Airport Services India and Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management India then petitioned Delhi HC. Last week, Celebi NAS Airport Services India Pvt Ltd approached Bombay HC against the revocation.

80 flights hit, runway shut thrice; ATC debuts low visibility take-off protocol

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Mumbai: Roughly 80 flight arrivals and departures were likely affected by heavy rain at the city airport during morning peak hours on Monday. Visibility dropped below the minimum threshold during the period, forcing the runway to be shut for landings thrice for short durations.

Sources said that there was no rain-related cancellation, and that two Air India flights to Mumbai were diverted—one from Ahmedabad was sent back and the other, from Goa, was sent to Indore. The morning disruption had a cascading effect on flight schedules and delays continued through the day. According to Flightradar24, arrivals and departures were delayed by an average of 45 minutes in the evening.

To reduce such delays in departures during heavy rain, the city airport's air traffic control on Monday morning debuted a new procedure under which it permits take-off in low visibility conditions. The procedure was tested between 7.30am and 10.30am when dense cloud cover and rainfall led to low visibility. Despite the inclement weather, Mumbai airport handled 50 departures. However, since landings continue to follow the standard visibility norms, only 28 flights could land during those three hours of morning peak hour traffic.

Called 'low visibility take



Pics: Agencies



WHEN INFRA CRUMBLES, IT'S TOUGH TO GO WITH THE FLOW

off' (LVTO), the procedure reduces the minimum runway visibility required to take off from Mumbai airport from the standard 550m to 400m. This means departures can continue till visibility drops below 400m. The minimum visibility for landings at Mumbai continues to be 550m.

"Early this year, the Mum-

bai air traffic control, along with the airport operator, formulated the procedures for LVTO, and Directorate General of Civil Aviation granted clearance. On Monday morning, we got an opportunity to implement it. Visibility fell below 550m thrice for 5-10 minutes each during the morning peak hours," said an av-

Amid probe, no contractor keen on Mithi clean-up

Mumbai: The ongoing police probe into alleged irregularities in Mithi river's desilting contracts has had a fallout—there is no contractor to finish the work and many are hesitant to come forward without clarity or direction, said BMC officials. The river, which snakes through some of the most flood-prone pockets of the city such as Kurla, Saki Naka and Bandra East, is crucial to the city's storm-water management system, but only 53% of it has been desilted. "Given the urgency, we will need to bring in a new agency to get this work done on a war footing. But the ongoing police investigation has slowed us down," said a senior BMC official. The river is choked with silt and garbage, and its diminished capacity had triggered widespread flooding during intense rain in the past. —Richa Pinto

iation source. "Typically, flights coming in to land are given priority over flights waiting to take off. On rainy days, then, departure flights end up with longer delays than arrivals. With the implementation of LVTO, the duration of delays in departures can be cut down when visibility falls below 550m," the source said.

Canopy partially collapses at airport amid heavy rain

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

49 flights diverted due to extreme weather

NEW DELHI, MAY 25

A section of the canopy at Terminal 1 of Delhi's Indra Gandhi International (IGI) Airport collapsed early on Sunday morning after thunderstorm and heavy rain battered the national capital.

The incident was captured on video, showing a portion of the terminal's tensile overhang buckling under pressure, with water gushing onto the pavement below.

According to the airport authorities, the city recorded wind speeds of 70-80 km/h and 80 mm of rain within 45 minutes around 2 am.

In a statement, the Delhi Airport clarified, "As part of the design's natural response to extreme conditions and to prevent excessive water retention, a section of the external tensile fabric at the T1 Arrival forecourt adjusted under pressure, thereby aiding in water dispersal. There was no structural compromise or impact to other parts of the terminal."

Due to the extreme weather, 49 flights, including 17 international flights, were diverted from the Delhi Airport. Operations were briefly disrupted, but the airport management



A video grab shows a section of the canopy damaged at Terminal 1 of the Indra Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in Delhi.

emphasised that the situation was quickly brought under control. Ground teams reportedly responded swiftly to manage the situation, ensuring safety and resuming operations with minimal delays.

The storm also led to severe waterlogging across

several parts of Delhi, including the busy Minto Road area, where visuals showed cars submerged in floodwaters. Traffic congestion and slow-moving vehicles were reported from various corners of the city throughout the morning.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

27 MAY 2025

Indian mangoes make a splash in London, NY

In April, Air India flew 1,000 tonnes of seasonal treat to Europe, US, Japan, Middle East

VINEETA PANDEY
NEW DELHI, MAY 26

From gourmet grocers in New York to the vibrant weekend markets in London, Indian mangoes are making waves worldwide. Due to their high demand, this seasonal treat has quickly grown to become one of Air India's most celebrated cargo segments, with shipments taking off heading all over the world and making a big splash in cities such as Toronto, San Francisco,

Frankfurt, Tokyo and Sydney, among others.

In April, Air India transported close to 1,000 tonnes of fresh Indian mangoes to several countries in Europe, North America and the Middle East.

"Perishable movement has seen a significant increase this past year, mangoes being one of the more conspicuous examples. We continue to make investments in enhancing our cold-chain infrastructure, streamlining processes at key airports

and strengthening our partnerships with exporters to make Air India the preferred choice for fresh cargo," said Ramesh Mamidala, head of cargo, Air India.

Officials said Air India is facilitating the connection between mango farms in the hinterlands of India and international demands by transporting popular varieties like the *Alphonso* from Maharashtra and *Safeda* and *Dussehri* from Uttar Pradesh. More than 75 per cent of these man-

goes originate from Western India and are flown to 43 destinations in 31 countries across five continents via Air India's extensive route network, the airline said. The key destinations are the United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Germany and the Netherlands.

In order to maintain freshness of mangoes at the height of 30,000 feet, Air India uses a well-managed cold chain and some astute cargo handling.

Mangoes are kept in temperature-controlled APEDA-certified facilities prior to takeoff, ensuring that they are at their freshest right out of the farm. Once at the airport, thermal blankets and cool dollies ensure the fruit stays chilled as it moves across the tarmac and into the belly of the aircraft.

"Our teams handle mango shipments with the same precision and care you'd reserve for delicate glassware," said Mr Mamidala.



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

राकेश गंगवाल ने इंडिगो में बेची 5.7 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी

नई दिल्ली। इंटरग्लोब एविएशन के प्रवर्तक राकेश गंगवाल व उनके पारिवारिक ट्रस्ट चिन्करपू ने विमानन कंपनी इंडिगो में मंगलवार को 5.7 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी ब्लॉक डील के



जरिये 11,385 करोड़ रुपये (1.33 अरब डॉलर) में बेच दी। अब इंडिगो में उनकी हिस्सेदारी 7.8 फीसदी रह गई।

सूत्रों ने बताया, इस सौदे के तहत 5,175 रुपये प्रति शेयर के न्यूनतम मूल्य पर 2.2 करोड़ शेयर (5.7 फीसदी हिस्सा) बेचे गए। इस सौदे से पहले गंगवाल और उनके पारिवारिक ट्रस्ट के पास इंडिगो में करीब 13.5 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी थी। इंडिगो के सह-संस्थापक राहुल भाटिया के साथ कामकाज के मुद्दों पर विवाद को लेकर गंगवाल ने 2022 में इंटरग्लोब एविएशन के बोर्ड से इस्तीफा दिया था। इसके बाद से वह इंडिगो में लगातार हिस्सा घटा रहे हैं। एजेंसी

गंगवाल ने इंडिगो में बेचा 5.72 फीसदी हिस्सा

समी मोडक
मुंबई, 27 मई

इंटरग्लोब एविएशन के सह-संस्थापक राकेश गंगवाल ने विमानन कंपनी इंडिगो में अपनी 5.72 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी आज बेच दी। गंगवाल और चिंकरपू फैमिली ट्रस्ट ने 5,232.5 रुपये प्रति शेयर भाव पर इंडिगो के 2.21 करोड़ शेयर 11,564 करोड़ रुपये में बेच दिए। भारतीय बाजार में यह अभी तक के सबसे मोटे (बल्क) सौदों में से एक है।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि गंगवाल ने शुरू में केवल 1.32 करोड़ शेयर बेचने का इरादा किया था लेकिन मजबूत मांग को देखते हुए उन्होंने बेचे जाने वाले शेयरों की संख्या बढ़ा दी। स्टॉक एक्सचेंजों ने इंडिगो के शेयर खरीदारों के नाम नहीं बताए मगर सूत्रों ने कहा कि इनमें घरेलू म्यूचुअल फंड और लंबी अवधि के लिए निवेश करने वाले विदेशी फंड शामिल हैं।

बंबई स्टॉक एक्सचेंज पर इंडिगो का शेयर करीब 2 फीसदी गिरावट के साथ 5,313 रुपये पर बंद हुआ। शेयर की बिक्री से पहले इंडिगो में गंगवाल की हिस्सेदारी करीब 13.5 फीसदी थी।

गोल्डमैन सैक्स, मॉर्गन स्टैनली और जेपी मॉर्गन ने शेयर सौदों का प्रबंधन करने में निवेश बैंकर की भूमिका अदा की।

इस साल अभी तक इंडिगो का शेयर 16.7 फीसदी

हिस्सेदारी बिक्री

■ बल्क डील में **2.21 करोड़ शेयर**
11,564 करोड़ रुपये में बेचे

■ स्टॉक एक्सचेंज ने शेयर खरीदारों के नाम का खुलासा नहीं किया

■ इस सौदे से पहले इंडिगो में गंगवाल की हिस्सेदारी करीब **13.5 फीसदी** थी

■ गंगवाल कुछ वर्षों से इंडिगो में अपनी हिस्सेदारी घटा रहे हैं



चढ़ा था जबकि निफ्टी में इस दौरान केवल 5 फीसदी की तेजी आई है। कंपनी के दमदार मुनाफे की बदौलत शेयरों में तेजी आई है। मौजूदा समय में इंडिगो का शेयर अपने 12 महीने के आगे के आय के अनुमान से करीब 24 गुना पर कारोबार कर रहा है।

जेपी मॉर्गन ने हाल में अपने एक नोट में कहा है, 'अगर तेल के दाम 65 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर बने रहे तो इंडिगो का कर पूर्व मुनाफा 40 फीसद बढ़ सकता है।'

ब्लूमबर्ग के अनुमान के अनुसार अगले 12 महीनों में इंडिगो का शेयर भाव 5,936.50 रुपये तक पहुंच सकता है। ब्लूमबर्ग के 19 विश्लेषकों ने शेयर को 'खरीदें' और 2 ने 'बेचें' की सलाह दी है।

बीते कुछ वर्षों में राकेश गंगवाल और उनकी संबंधित इकाइयों ने कई थोक सौदों के जरिये इंडिगो में अपनी हिस्सेदारी धीरे-धीरे घटाई है। पिछले साल अगस्त में गंगवाल और उनके परिवार के ट्रस्ट ने इंडिगो में 5.83 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी करीब 10,500 करोड़ रुपये में बेची थी। उसी साल मार्च में उन्होंने करीब 6,786 करोड़ रुपये में 6 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी और बेच दी थी। वर्ष

2023 में राकेश गंगवाल की पत्नी शोभा गंगवाल ने अपनी 3 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी 2,802 करोड़ रुपये में बेच दी थी। फरवरी 2023 में भी गंगवाल परिवार ने 4 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी बेचकर 2,900 करोड़ रुपये जुटाए थे। इससे पहले सितंबर 2022 में करीब 2,000 करोड़ रुपये में कंपनी की 2.8 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी बेची थी।

गंगवाल ने 18 फरवरी, 2022 को इंडिगो के निदेशक मंडल से इस्तीफा दे दिया था और अगले 5 साल में धीरे-धीरे अपनी हिस्सेदारी बेचकर कंपनी से निकलने की घोषणा की थी।

Gangwal, family trust offload 5.7% stake in IndiGo for ₹11,564 cr

SAMIE MODAK
Mumbai, 27 May

InterGlobe Aviation Ltd (IndiGo) cofounder Rakesh Gangwal and his family trust on Tuesday offloaded a 5.72 per cent stake in India's largest airline through a block deal worth ₹11,564 crore (\$1.39 billion), according to exchange filings.

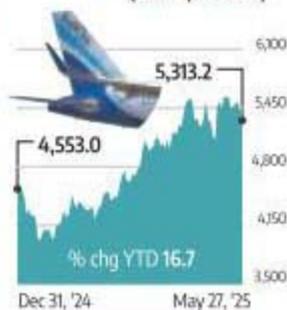
Gangwal and The Chinkerpoo Family Trust sold a combined 22.1 million shares at ₹5,232.5 each in one of the largest secondary-market transactions ever executed in India. The offering was upsized from an initial 13.2 million shares amid strong investor demand, people familiar with the matter said.

While the identities of the buyers were not disclosed, sources indicated that the shares were picked up by a mix of domestic mutual funds and long-only foreign funds.

IndiGo shares declined nearly 2 per cent on Tuesday to close at ₹5,313 following the sale. Prior to the transaction,

Taking off

InterGlobe Aviation
(Share price in ₹)



Source: Bloomberg

Gangwal held about 13.5 per cent in the low-cost carrier. Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and JPMorgan were the investment bankers that managed the share sale.

The stock has surged 16.7 per cent so far this year, outpacing the 5 per cent gain in the NSE Nifty 50 index, buoyed by robust earnings momentum. Turn to Page 6 ▶

Most analysts have a 'buy' call on IndiGo

IndiGo is currently trading at about 24 times its projected 12-month forward earnings.

"If oil prices remain at \$65 per barrel, it could lead to profit before tax (PBT) being 40 per cent higher (assuming no changes to yields)," JPMorgan analysts wrote in a recent note. "This could offset the negative PBT impact from — 1. lower domestic traffic (-15 per cent), 2. longer international flights (-7 per cent), and 3. a scenario where 50 per cent of code-share

revenues (2.5 per cent of total) get impacted (-20 per cent)."

According to Bloomberg consensus estimates, IndiGo's stock price is expected to climb to ₹5,936.5 over the next 12 months. A total of 19 analysts have a "buy" call on the stock and two have a "sell" call.

Tuesday's stake sale is the latest in a series of divestments by Gangwal and his family. In August 2023, Gangwal and his trust offloaded a 5.83 per cent stake via block deals for about ₹10,500 crore. Ear-

lier, in March that year, he had sold another 6 per cent for ₹6,786 crore. His wife Shobha Gangwal sold a 3 per cent stake for ₹2,802 crore in August 2023, while a 4 per cent stake was sold for ₹2,900 crore in February. In September 2022, the family had sold a 2.8 per cent stake for about ₹2,000 crore.

Gangwal had resigned from IndiGo's board on February 18, 2022, declaring he would gradually pare his holding over five years.

Lenders plan fresh auction of Go First's Thane land



The airline had filed for voluntary insolvency in May 2023, and in January 2025, the NCLT ordered the liquidation of Go First on the request of its committee of creditors

HARSH KUMAR
New Delhi, 27 May

Financial creditors to defunct airline Go First are set to auction by next month its land parcels in Thane to recover dues of around ₹2,000 crore.

These land plots, to be auctioned for a third time, are collateral for loan exposures.

"The lenders are in talks with reputed builders who have shown an interest in acquiring the Thane land asset, which enhances the prospects for full recovery. Additionally, there are arbitration proceedings going on in Singapore and some other countries related to the contractual disputes with engine suppliers. These arbitration outcomes could potentially support the resolution process further," said a senior banking official.

The official added the lenders were considering a relaxation of some eligibility criteria because the existing rules had made it difficult to sell the land parcels.

"Auctioning large parcels poses its own challenges," he added.

Public-sector bank Central Bank of India has taken possession of immovable properties of 94.71 acres abutting Ghodbunder Road, Thane, on behalf of Bank of Baroda, IDBI Bank, and itself. The land is in the name of Wadia Reality Private Ltd.

Central Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and IDBI

Bank are some of the secured creditors to the airline, with admitted claims of ₹1,934 crore, ₹1,744 crore, and ₹75 crore, respectively.

"Learning from past auctions, this time we are planning to adopt a more aggressive approach with our roadshows," said the bank executive.

An email sent to the three lenders remained unanswered until the time of going to press.

"In addition to focusing on major builders that have the capacity to take over the land, we are looking at smaller builders. So far, we've received an encouraging interest from them. We hope to recover a portion of the dues, which will then be distributed among the lenders in proportion to their loan exposures," said the official.

The airline had filed for voluntary insolvency in May 2023 and on January 21 this year the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) ordered its liquidation on the request of its committee of creditors (CoC), which is a group of lenders that work together to decide the future of a borrower's debt.

That ended the 20-month-long insolvency proceedings.

The lenders have fully provided for credit exposure to the airline in line with regulatory requirements for taking over assets for resolution under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

यूरोप में बजट एयरलाइंस का नया दांव अब सीट के सहारे खड़े-खड़े कर सकेंगे सस्ता हवाई सफर



भास्कर न्यूज़ | तदन

यूरोप में कई बजट एयरलाइंस प्लेन में स्टैंडिंग सीट लगाने पर विचार कर रही हैं। इनका किराया सामान्य सीटों से कम होगा। यूरो वीकली न्यूज़ की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, यूरोप में कई एयरलाइंस अगले साल से कम दूरी की फ्लाइट में स्टैंडिंग सीटों का विकल्प शुरू कर सकती हैं। लेकिन किसी ने अब तक इसकी आधिकारिक घोषणा नहीं की है। इन सीटों का कांसेप्ट इटैलियन एयर प्लेन सीट मैनुफैक्चरर एवियो इंटीरियर्स ने 2018 में ही पेश किया था। इन्हें स्काई राइडर 2.0 नाम दिया था। इस कंपनी का कहना है कि स्काई राइडर की सीटें हर सुरक्षा परीक्षण में खरी उतरी हैं। इसलिए आपात स्थिति के बारे में घबराने की जरूरत नहीं है।

फर्क: सीटें ऐसी कि आधा वजन पैरों पर झेलना होगा

स्काई राइडर 2.0 बाइक की सीट के समान है। इस पर खड़े-खड़े सिर्फ पीठ टिकाने की जगह होती है। यात्रियों को अपना आधा वजन अपने पैरों पर झेलना होता है। इस डिजाइन का उद्देश्य विमान में यात्री क्षमता 20% तक बढ़ाना और सीटों का वजन 50% तक कम करना है।

फायदा: ज्यादा स्पेस, सीटें अधिक, टिकटें कम महंगी

एक्सपर्ट्स के मुताबिक सीटों का वजन आम सीटों से आधा होगा। पुर्जे भी कम होने से साफ-सफाई की जरूरत घटेगी। इससे विमान ज्यादा समय उड़ सकेंगे और ईंधन बचेगा, सीटें बढ़ेंगी। टिकटों के दाम कम रखने में मदद मिलेगी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

इंडिगो में सह-संस्थापक का हिस्सा 7.8% इंडिगो के गंगवाल ने 11,385 करोड़ रु. में बेचे 5.7% शेयर

बिजनेस संवाददाता | मुंबई

इंडिगो के प्रमोटर राकेश गंगवाल और उनके फैमिली ट्रस्ट ने कंपनी के 5.7% शेयर बेच दिए। ब्लॉक डील के जरिये ये हिस्सेदारी करीब 11,385 करोड़ रुपए में बेची गई। इससे पहले गंगवाल और उनके फैमिली ट्रस्ट के पास इंडिगो में 13.5% हिस्सेदारी थी। अब हिस्सेदारी सिर्फ 7.8% रह गई है। मामले से जुड़े लोगों के मुताबिक, गंगवाल के अलावा चिन्करपु फैमिली ट्रस्ट ने भी इंडिगो में हिस्सेदारी बेची है। लेटेस्ट ब्लॉक

विवाद के बाद गंगवाल ने बनाया एक्जिट प्लान

गंगवाल और उनकी पत्नी शोभा फरवरी, 2022 से इंडिगो में अपने शेयर बेच रहे हैं। सह-संस्थापक राहुल भाटिया के साथ विवाद के बाद गंगवाल ने कंपनी से बाहर होने का फैसला किया था।

डील के तहत इंडिगो के 2.2 करोड़ शेयर 5,175 रुपए के भाव पर बेचे। बीएसई पर मंगलवार को 2% गिरावट के बावजूद इन शेयरों की ट्रेडिंग 5313 रु. पर बंद हुई।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

एअर इंडिया ने तेल अवीव उड़ानों पर रोक 19 जून तक बढ़ाई

नई दिल्ली, एएनआइ : एअर इंडिया ने मंगलवार को तेल अवीव से आने-जाने वाली सभी उड़ानों पर निलंबन 19 जून 2025 तक बढ़ाने की घोषणा की है। एयरलाइन ने एक्स पर कहा कि 19 जून तक यात्रा की वैध टिकट रखने वाले ग्राहकों को पुनर्निर्धारण शुल्क पर एक बार की छूट या रद्दीकरण के लिए पूरी धन वापसी की जाएगी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

PHASED EXIT HOLDING IN INTERGLOBE FALLS TO 7.81%; THREE YEARS AGO, THE FAMILY HELD NEARLY 37%

Rakesh Gangwal, Family Trust Sell 5.72% in IndiGo Parent for ₹11,564 cr

Our Bureau

Mumbai: In one of the largest block deals in recent times, InterGlobe Aviation co-founder Rakesh Gangwal and his family have sold shares worth ₹11,564 crore on Tuesday. The promoters sold 2.21 crore shares of InterGlobe, IndiGo's parent, comprising a 5.72% stake in India's largest airline.

The total offering was increased to 2.21 crore shares, from the initially planned 1.32 crore shares.

Gangwal sold 22.10 lakh shares, while the Chinkerpoo Family Trust, associated with his family, offloaded 1.99 crore shares in the block

deal on NSE. The exchange disclosure did not identify the buyers.

According to the term sheet issued on Monday, the shares were offered at a floor price of ₹5,175 apiece — a 4.5% discount to IndiGo's closing price of ₹5,420 on the NSE as of May 26.

As of March 31, 2025, the Gangwal family held a 13.53% stake in the airline. Following the latest transaction, Gangwal and his family's stake has been reduced to 7.81%. The stake sale is part of a phased exit strategy by Gangwal and his family from the company, which he co-founded with Rahul Bhatia in 2006. Three years ago, the family's holding stood at nearly 37%.

Gangwal stepped down from Indi-



Go's board in February 2022 and publicly announced plans to gradually reduce his stake. Since then, the family has been steadily paring its shareholding. In August 2024, they sold a 5.25% stake for ₹9,549 crore, following an earlier sale of a

5.8% stake in 2024 that fetched ₹6,786 crore. In August 2023, Shobha Gangwal fully exited by selling her 4% stake for ₹2,944 crore.

The stake sale by Gangwal and family on Monday is one of the largest secondary market deals in recent times. On May 16, Singapore Telecommunications (Singtel) sold 7.1 crore shares in Bharti Airtel for ₹13,221 crore. The most significant block trade ever executed in India's secondary market was in March 2023, when British American Tobacco Plc (BAT) offloaded a 3.5% stake in ITC for ₹17,485 crore.

In June last year, Vodafone Group sold an 18% stake in India's Indus Towers for ₹15,300 crore.

Gangwal, family trust offload 5.72% in IndiGo for ₹11,564 cr

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, May 27

INTERGLOBE AVIATION PROMOTER Rakesh Gangwal and his family trust on Tuesday trimmed their holdings by divesting a 5.72% stake in the airline for ₹11,564 crore through open market transactions.

A total of 22.1 million equity shares were offloaded by Gangwal and his family trust, the Chinkerpoo Family Trust, whose trustees are Shobha Gangwal and JP Morgan Trust Company of Delaware, as per the bulk deal data on the NSE.

According to the data, Rakesh Gangwal sold 2.21 million shares, or 0.6% stake, in InterGlobe Aviation. In addition, the Chinkerpoo Family Trust disposed of nearly 19.9 million shares in three tranches, representing a 5.15% holding in Gurugram-based InterGlobe Aviation.

The shares offloaded in the price range of ₹5,230.99-5,235.31 apiece, taking the combined transaction value to ₹11,563.79 crore. After the latest transaction, Rakesh Gangwal's holding in InterGlobe Aviation declined to 4.7% from 5.30% and the Chinkerpoo Family Trust's stake dipped to 3.08% from 8.23% in India's largest airline IndiGo. Promoter and co-founder of IndiGo

PARING STAKE

■ After latest share sales, Rakesh Gangwal's holding in IndiGo declined to **4.7%** from 5.30% and Chinkerpoo Family Trust's to **3.08%** from 8.23%



■ IndiGo promoter and co-founder Rahul Bhatia, his family, and InterGlobe Enterprises promoted by him own a combined **35.74%** stake

On Tuesday, shares of InterGlobe Aviation fell

2.08%

to close at

₹5,307

apiece on the NSE

Rahul Bhatia, his family and Bhatia-led InterGlobe Enterprises own a combined 35.74% stake in the airline. Details of the buyers of InterGlobe Aviation's shares could not be ascertained on the NSE.

On Tuesday, shares of InterGlobe Aviation fell 2.08% to close at ₹5,307 apiece on the NSE.

In August 2024, Rakesh Gangwal's family trust sold a 5.24% stake in the airline for ₹9,549 crore. Before that, it had sold shares in March. The share sale is part of Gangwal's decision in February 2022 to trim his shareholding after a bitter feud with Rahul Bhatia over alleged corporate governance issues. Since February 2022, Gangwal and his wife Shobha Gangwal have been offloading their

shares in IndiGo. Amid differences with Bhatia, Gangwal, in February 2022, resigned from the board of directors of InterGlobe Aviation, and said that he would gradually reduce his equity stake in the airline over the next five years.

Airline slapped with ₹2.76-crore penalties

Customs authorities have imposed penalties totalling over ₹2.76 crore on IndiGo, which said it will appeal against the orders. In a regulatory filing, the airline said the communications regarding the penalties were received by it from Ahmedabad and Meenambakkam authorities on May 26 and May 27.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

27 MAY 2025

Airline schedule thrown out of gear

Dhairya Gajara

MUMBAI

Many flyers at the Mumbai airport were hit after intense rains impacted the schedule of airlines.

Multiple carriers announced disruptions and asked the passengers to check their flight's status before leaving for the airport. While several international airlines also suffered, domestic airlines like IndiGo, Air India and SpiceJet were majorly hit as many of their flights were scheduled in the morning.

IndiGo, which operates the maximum number of domestic trips from the Mumbai airport, announced that several flights have been impacted due to heavy rains. "We are all hands on deck to ensure that you reach your destination safely and as quickly as possible," said the airline in its travel advisory.

Meanwhile, Air India asked its passengers to check their flight status before heading to the airport. Similarly, SpiceJet announced that the bad weather will affect the departures and arrivals.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

27 MAY 2025

Rakesh Gangwal, family trust likely to sell 3.4% stake in IndiGo for ₹6,831 cr

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

IndiGo co-founder Rakesh Gangwal will sell up to a 3.4% stake in the low-cost carrier through a block deal worth nearly \$803 million (Rs 6,831 crore), news channel CNBC-TV18 reported on Monday.

Gangwal plans to sell the shares at a floor price of 5,175 rupees each, marking a 4.5% discount from the stock's Monday close of 5,420 rupees.

IndiGo was founded in 2006 by Gangwal and Rahul Bhatia. Gangwal, who currently chairs the board of directors of US budget carrier Southwest, quit IndiGo's board in 2022, following a dispute with Bhatia over a change to certain rules in the company's articles of association.



From a 36.6% stake in 2022, Gangwal and his family have been reducing their ownership of IndiGo to a current stake of 13.5%.

Investment banking firms Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Pvt Ltd, Morgan Stanley India Company and J P Morgan India are the placement agents for the stake sale, they added. Under the proposed transaction, to be executed on May 27, up to 1.32 crore equity shares will be sold at a floor price of Rs 5,175 per share, as per the term

sheet accessed by PTL.

The sources said 1.32 crore shares will amount to around 3.4 per cent stake in the company and the offer size, based on the floor price, is pegged at around USD 803 million or about Rs 6,831 crore.

The proposed share sale, to be done in multiple tranches on BSE and NSE, will be entirely secondary in nature and will not have any fresh issuance of equity.

As part of the deal structure, a 150-day lock-up period will apply to the vendors and their immediate relatives, barring one exception -- they may transfer shares worth at least USD 300 million to a single investor or investor group through a negotiated transaction, subject to certain pricing and lock-up conditions.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

IndiGo co-founder offloads 5.7% stake in airline

Sydney: The co-founder of Indian airline IndiGo, Rakesh Gangwal, sold a 5.7 per cent stake in the low-cost carrier through a block deal worth about \$1.36 billion, a term sheet showed on Tuesday. The shares were sold at Rs 52305 rupees each, the term sheet seen by Reuters showed, representing a discount of 3.5 per cent to the company's closing price on Monday. **REUTERS**



Corporate Communications Directorate

LOKSATYA

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

इंडिगो पर सीमा शुल्क का 2.76 करोड़ का जुर्माना

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्य। सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों ने एयरलाइन कंपनी इंडिगो पर 2.76 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक का जुर्माना लगाया है। कंपनी ने इस आदेश के खिलाफ अपील करने की बात कही है। कंपनी ने मंगलवार को शेयर बाजार को दी सूचना में कहा कि अहमदाबाद के प्रधान सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त ने एयरलाइन पर 2.20 करोड़ रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है, जबकि मीनांबक्कम, चेन्नई के प्रधान सीमा शुल्क आयुक्त ने एयरलाइन पर 56,20,254 रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है। जुर्माने के बारे में एयरलाइन को अहमदाबाद और मीनांबक्कम अधिकारियों से क्रमशः 26 मई और 27 मई को सूचना प्राप्त हुई। एयरलाइन ने कहा कि सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों ने सीमा शुल्क की मांग की पुष्टि करते हुए आदेश जारी किए हैं। कंपनी का मानना है कि उसने शुल्क सही तरीके से जमा किया है और उसका मामला मजबूत है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

28 MAY 2025

Rakesh Gangwal sells IndiGo shares worth \$1.35 billion

Priyavada C &
Ranjani Raghavan

MUMBAI

IndiGo co-founder and promoter Rakesh Gangwal sold shares worth \$1.35 billion in the airline through a block deal on Tuesday, according to a term sheet accessed by *Mint*.

On Monday, *Mint* reported that Gangwal was expected to sell shares worth \$803 million via a block deal. However, the transaction size has since

grown, according to the latest term sheet reviewed by *Mint*.

Under the updated terms, Gangwal and his Chinkerpoo Family Trust offloaded 22.1 million shares, or a 5.7% stake, at an offer price of ₹5,230.5 per share in InterGlobe Aviation Ltd, which operates IndiGo, India's largest airline. This price reflects a nearly 3.5% discount to the stock's Monday closing price of ₹5,418 on the BSE.

Following the block deal, shares of the firm traded at ₹5,294 apiece in opening deals, down from the previous close of ₹5,418 per share on the BSE on Monday. IndiGo's shares have gained about 18% over the past year.

As of 30 March 2025, Gangwal held a 5.3% stake in the company, while the Chinkerpoo Family Trust owned 8.23%, according to BSE data. In contrast, as of November 2015, Gangwal owned 16.89% of IndiGo, and the trust held 15.64%, highlighting the significant reduction in their combined holdings over time.

Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Pvt., Morgan Stanley India Co., and J.P. Morgan India Pvt. arranged the trade. Gold-



IndiGo co-founder and promoter Rakesh Gangwal. **H**

man Sachs declined to comment, while Gangwal, Morgan Stanley India and J.P. Morgan India did not immediately respond to *Mint*'s requests for comment.

Gangwal has been gradually reducing his stake in the airline following a settlement agreement with co-founder Rahul Bhatia. He sold a 5.83% stake on 29 August 2024, after offloading an identical stake on 11 April 2024.

IndiGo reported a 62% surge in profit in the fourth quarter ended March, driven by a spike in air travel during the Mahakumbh festival in January and February.

In its recent earnings call, the company said it has damp-leased six Boeing 737 widebody aircraft to support international expansion, with one already deployed on the Delhi-Bangkok route.

The airline is also betting on cargo as a major growth opportunity. Its management noted that India currently accounts for a single-digit share of international air cargo, indicating significant upside potential.

For an extended version of this story, go to [livemint.com](https://www.livemint.com).

Gangwal has been gradually reducing his stake in the airline after a settlement agreement with Rahul Bhatia



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

27 MAY 2025

'Delhi HC has rejected appeal of KAL Airways, Kalanithi Maran'



NEW DELHI: SpiceJet on Monday said a division bench of the Delhi High Court has rejected an appeal of KAL Airways and Kalanithi Maran seeking damages of over Rs 1,300 crore and other claims.

In a regulatory filing, the airline said KAL Airways and Kalanithi Maran initially sought damages of more than Rs 1,300 crore during the arbitration proceedings.

Maran and KAL Airways were former promoters of SpiceJet.

"These claims were thoroughly examined and subsequently rejected by a panel of three retired Supreme Court judges. Following this, KAL Airways and Kalanithi Maran appealed to the single judge bench of the Delhi High Court, seeking the same amount in damages, which was also rejected by the court," it said.

According to the filing, the division bench of Delhi High Court in its order dated May 23 has dismissed the appeal filed by KAL Airways and Kalanithi Maran seeking damages of more than Rs 1,300 crore and other claims.

"These assertions were already previously rejected by the Arbitral Tribunal and then the Delhi High Court," the airline said.

Rakesh Gangwal, family trust sell 5.7 per cent stake in IndiGo for ₹11,559 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

InterGlobe Aviation promoter Rakesh Gangwal and his family trust on Tuesday sold a 5.7 per cent stake in the airline for about ₹11,559 crore (\$1.36 billion) through a block deal, according to sources. Following the stake sale, shares of InterGlobe Aviation slipped 2.20 per cent to trade at ₹5,301 apiece on the NSE in late afternoon trade.

Apart from Gangwal, the Chinkerpoo Family Trust, whose trustees are Shobha Gangwal and JP Morgan Trust Company of Delaware, has also participated in the transaction in the country's largest airline IndiGo, the sources said. Investment banking firms Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Pvt Ltd, Morgan Stanley India Company and JP Morgan India are the placement agents for the stake sale, they added. Before the latest transaction, Gangwal and the family trust together owned about 13.5 per cent in IndiGo.

As per the latest block deal, up to 2.21 crore equity shares were sold at a final price of ₹5,230.50 per share, as per a revised term sheet.

The total number of shares has been raised from the initial 13.2 million shares (1.32 crore shares) mentioned in the earlier term sheet. The final price is at a 3.5 per cent discount compared to the closing price of ₹5,420 per share on Monday.

The sources said 2.21 crore shares



amount to around 5.7 per cent stake in the company, and the offer size, based on the final price, is pegged at nearly \$1.36 billion or about ₹11,559 crore.

The share sale, executed through multiple tranches on BSE and NSE, is entirely secondary in nature. As part of the deal structure, a 150-day lock-up period will apply to the vendors and their immediate relatives, barring one exception — they may transfer shares worth at least \$300 million to a

single investor or investor group through a negotiated transaction, subject to certain pricing and lock-up conditions.

In August 2024, Rakesh Gangwal's family trust sold a 5.24 per cent stake in the airline for ₹9,549 crore. Before that, it had sold shares in March.

The share sale is part of Gangwal's decision in February 2022 to trim his shareholding after a bitter feud with co-founder Rahul Bhatia over alleged corporate governance

issues. Since February 2022, Gangwal and his wife Shobha Gangwal have been offloading their shares in IndiGo.

In September 2022, Rakesh Gangwal and Shobha Gangwal sold a 2.74 per cent shareholding for ₹2,005 crore. In February 2023, Shobha divested a 4 per cent stake in the company for ₹2,944 crore. Later in August, she sold a nearly 2.9 per cent stake in the company for a little over ₹2,800 crore.

Gangwal sells 6% stake in IndiGo for ₹11,564cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: IndiGo co-founder Rakesh Gangwal Tuesday divested 5.7% stake in India's biggest airline by selling over 2.2 crore shares at Rs 5,232 apiece in a deal worth Rs 11,564 crore, marking one of the biggest block deals in Indian markets.

Before the latest sale, Gangwal's share in the airline directly and through his family trust was 13.5%. While initially Gangwal had planned to sell over 1.3 crore shares in the latest tranche, he increased the lot due to strong demand from buyers, who are learnt to be a mix of domestic mutual funds and long-only foreign funds. Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and JPMorgan were the investment bankers who managed the share sale.

IndiGo shares closed Rs 5,313, down 1.9% BSE Tuesday when the broader market was 0.8% lower.

In Feb 2022, when Gangwal had announced step-

THE EXIT FOOTPRINT

Feb 2023: The family sells 4% stake for ₹2,900 crore. In Sept 2022, they had sold 2.8% stake for about ₹2,000cr

Aug 2023: Gangwal's wife Shobha offloads 3% stake for ₹2,802 crore



March 2024: Rakesh Gangwal sells another 6% stake for ₹6,786 crore

Aug 2024: Gangwal and his Chinkerpoo Family Trust sells 5.8% stake for about ₹10,500 crore

ping down from the airline's board, following differences with co-founder Rahul Bhatia, both these promoter groups collectively held 74.4% stake in the airline almost equally. At that time, Gangwal had announced he will reduce his group's stake in the airline gradually over the next five years "to benefit from some of the upside."

Since then, Gangwal, now chairman of leading American low-cost carrier Southwest Airlines, has sold his shares in IndiGo at periodic intervals and now reduced his stake to single digit level.

Bhatia and Gangwal had jointly launched IndiGo 19

years ago in 2006. After a series of mega orders, IndiGo emerged as India's largest domestic airline in just over a decade, which saw other big India carriers like Kingfisher and Jet shut down and then state-owned Air India group struggle to survive. When IndiGo had not much competition in Indian skies (Tatas acquired AI and AI Express in Jan 2022), differed merged between the two in 2019 and they parted ways after a bitter battle both in courtroom and boardroom. Then in Dec 2021, the estranged co-founders agreed to remove restriction on their sale of shares to third party.

FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS

When pre-monsoon skies throw punches and planes duck

Last week, a Delhi-Srinagar IndiGo flight flew into severe turbulence during a hailstorm. When the flight finally landed, there was a hole in its nose. For many seasoned fliers, this was the worst turbulence they had ever experienced. This may have been rather extreme, but turbulence is very common during this season, when some of the most hazardous weather activity that a plane can run into takes place

Manju Jayalal@timesofindia.com

Passengers on the Delhi-Srinagar IndiGo flight were rattled for sure, but the good thing is no one was injured. However, three years ago, again in May, a SpiceJet flight from Mumbai to Darbhanga ran into turbulence, and though it was not as severe as what the IndiGo flight flew into, 18 passengers sustained injuries and one of them died a month later.

Every single year, in the recent past, there have been instances of airplanes in India encountering severe turbulence during the pre-monsoon months, stretching from April to mid-June.

TOI went through multiple investigation reports of past turbulence-related incidents to understand this peculiar weather behaviour in pre-monsoon months and why it is such a nightmare for pilots.

Trouble In The Skies

As the sun sears the Earth along the tropics, the skies above the Indian subcontinent turn dangerously volatile. During the day, the ground heats up rapidly, sending hot streams of air into the cooler and moisture-laden upper altitudes, causing cloud formation and unstable conditions.

Violent thunderstorms originate over the Chota Nagpur plateau, which covers Jharkhand and extends up to Chhatisgarh, Bihar, West Bengal and Odisha. Called Nor'westers or Kal Baisakhi, these gale-speed winds usually approach from the northwest and burst suddenly with great fury.

While every pre-monsoon turbulence event is not a Kal Baisakhi, all these storms are at their fiercest in the pre-monsoon season during the afternoon or just before sunset.

The turbulence that the IndiGo flight got caught in occurred at 5.57pm, but it has not been classified, in official aviation circles, as a Kal Baisakhi event. The SpiceJet 2022 incident occurred at

7pm and was most likely a Kal Baisakhi event, given its location and time.

Dangerous Cumulonimbus Clouds

At other places in India, the rising heat and moisture in upper altitudes in pre-monsoon months lead to the formation of 'cumulonimbus clouds' or Cb.

These clouds can build up vertically from as low as 700ft to over 50,000ft. Just for perspective: Mount Everest's peak is at 29,000ft. The maximum altitude a passenger jet can fly at is about 43,000ft, varying across aircraft types.

Pilots are trained to circumvent Cbs. The environment inside a Cb carries strong updrafts and downdrafts, lightning discharges, heavy rain and hailstorms. These can jolt and damage an aircraft. On a bad day, a chain of Cb clouds could stretch across the sky to form what's called a 'squall line'. It's a pilot's veritable nightmare.

'Clear Air Turbulence'

The third type of turbulence — clear air turbulence (CAT) — is particularly hazardous to an aircraft because it is invisible to both radars and satellites. Unlike Cb, it is not visible to pilots from the cockpit either.

CAT is caused by jet streams, a fast-moving, narrow air current. Differences in wind speed and direction along the layers of air can cause CAT. CAT occurs at altitudes above 15,000ft. An aircraft that flies into CAT could experience an extremely sudden and violent drop or gain in altitude.

But it's not like CAT cannot be predicted. SIGMET (Significant Meteorological Information) charts that pilots have access to give information on jet streams and forecast the location and altitude where CAT could occur.

Preparing For Turbulence

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issues a SIGMET report every six hours. Plus, a terminal forecast (specific



The nose and right side of an IndiGo flight from Delhi to Srinagar were damaged after it was caught in a hailstorm on May 21 over Pathankot in Punjab



CLOUDS TALLER THAN EVEREST

Cumulonimbus clouds can build up vertically from as low as 700ft to over 50,000ft

Just for perspective: Mt Everest's peak is at 29,000ft



to an airport and its surrounding area) is issued every 30 minutes with details of existing and emerging weather threats.

Before every flight, the airline's meteorology officer, dispatchers and pilots go through the various weather reports. The airline then carries out a route analysis and plans the day's flight routes. This exercise includes decisions to carry extra fuel for detours, re-routing, and possible diversions.

A critical aspect of the investigation into the recent turbulence incident involving the IndiGo Delhi-Srinagar flight would be the steps taken in the flight planning stage.

Air safety expert, Captain Amit Singh, said: "That day's latest weather report would've shown thunderstorm activity and squall line over the flight path. Then again, weather patterns and regional weather is documented in an

Saviour Seat Belts

Let's take the examples of the recent IndiGo and the May 2022 SpiceJet accidents. In both cases, pilots warned passengers about turbulence ahead and issued instructions to remain seated and fasten seat belts. The IndiGo flight appears to have encountered much more severe turbulence than the SpiceJet flight, but no passenger was injured. It can be safely assumed that all passengers and crew had their seat belts fastened.

In the case of SpiceJet, the final report into the investigation said that the SpiceJet pilot-in-command issued two warnings asking passengers to keep seat belts on. When the turbulence hit, many passengers, not wearing seatbelts, were thrown off their seats and suffered injuries.

The probe report said, "Passengers were thrown up in their seats and hit the ceiling. A passenger fell from the seat to the aisle. A ceiling panel separated and fell in the aft cabin. Unsecured passenger belongings and food items got thrown across the cabin... There was panic amongst passengers and the cabin crew were continuously screaming, asking the passengers to remain seated." Fourteen SpiceJet passengers suffered minor injuries, three were seriously hurt and one passenger died a month later.

In May 2024, Singapore Airlines' London-Singapore flight faced severe turbulence over the Irrawaddy Basin in Myanmar. The seat belt sign was on, but not all passengers had fastened the belts. The turbulence killed one passenger, while 101 of the 311 on board were injured.

Air safety experts say it's advisable to keep the seatbelt on during all stages of the flight. Turbulence due to CAT can be sudden and unexpected.

Sturdy Aircraft

The IndiGo aircraft hit with hailstones suffered a hole in its nose. But aircraft are built to weather turbulence. Passengers might get alarmed seeing the aircraft wings flapping up and down because of turbulence. But aircraft are designed to take that sort of beating.

The wingtips of a large jet like the Boeing 777 or 747, can bend up to 20ft and they are certified for even more stress. So, safety buffers are in place.

CAT Events Increasing

Climate change is strengthening the wind shear (or the variation of wind velocity over vertical or horizontal distances). The jet stream over the North Atlantic Ocean is already 15% more sheared than when the satellites began observing it in the late 1970s, according to research done by Paul D Williams, a professor of atmospheric science in the department of meteorology at the University of Reading, UK.

Studies using climate models have found that there will be significant rise in CAT over India within the next few decades. The projected increases are strongest in the northern half of India and are especially strong in the pre-monsoon season, from March to May. It is estimated that there will be 100-200% more CAT events between 2050 and 2080.

airline's operational manual. They expect thunderstorms at this time of the year towards the evening. The idea is to prepare at the planning stage itself. Airlines factor in the weather and the notices on airspace closures etc, and plan a route that circumvents bad weather conditions. If no such route is possible, the departure is delayed."