



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

PATNA

27 OCTOBER 2024

## AAI seeks 90-acre land to upgrade Darbhanga Airport

**Bishnu K Jha**

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**DARBHANGA:** In a strategic move to further enhance Bihar's air connectivity, the Directorate of Civil Aviation, under the cabinet secretariat department of the state government, has formally requested for the acquisition of an additional 90 acres of land for runway extension at Darbhanga airport.

This expansion aims to upgrade the airport for international flights, underscoring its importance as a significant transit hub in the state, sources familiar with the matter said.

Directorate of Civil Aviation, in a formal communication to Darbhanga district magistrate, outlined the need for expansion, which was necessitated by a request from the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

When contacted, Darbhanga DM Rajiv Raushan said that the required land in the alignment with existing runway will be identified first and after obtaining no objection certificate (NoC) from state government, social impact assessment will be conducted before the start of acquisition process.

his exercise takes a few months time.

In a letter dated October 18, 2024, the AAI emphasised the requirement for an extended runway stretching up to 12,000 feet. A longer runway will accommodate larger, long-haul aircraft, making international operations feasible.

According to the AAI sources, this infrastructure upgrade necessitates the allocation of an additional 90 acres of land adjacent to the airport. Currently, Darbhanga airport is having 9,000 ft runway, the longest runway in Bihar.

Meanwhile, Directorate of civil aviation, Bihar, while referring to AAI's October 18 letter, took no time and wrote a letter to Darbhanga DM, and tasked the latter to identify suitable land for this expansion and has been directed to submit a detailed report on the matter.

The copies of the communication have been dispatched to the divisional commissioner of Darbhanga and the additional chief secretary of the Cabinet Secretariat Department, ensuring streamlined coordination for this project.

Recently, Prime Minister Nar-



**Darbhangha Airport**

HT FILE

endra Modi laid the foundation of permanent terminal building in Darbhanga through video conferencing.

The new terminal building will cater to footfalls of 43 lakh passengers annually.

Meanwhile, JD-U working president and party's MP (Rajya Sabha) Sanjay Kumar Jha said that the chief minister Nitish Kumar has shown a sincere commitment to the development of Darbhanga airport from the outset, selecting it as one of two airports under the 'UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) scheme. The state government has provided essential land and facilities to support its establishment.

Darbhangha airport now serves as a critical air link for nearly 6 crore people across 14 north Bihar districts and has strategic importance due to its proximity to Nepal.

"With plans to develop it into an international airport, the state is prepared to offer additional land and resources", the senior JD-U leader asserted.

Darbhangha airport became operational on November 8, 2020 under regional connectivity scheme and soon became most successful airport under the UDAN scheme. The number of passengers in the year 2020-2021 was 1,53,281, followed by rising number of passengers.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDU

CHENNAI

27 OCTOBER 2024

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### Flight from Jaipur lands safely after failed attempt

#### **The Hindu Bureau**

CHENNAI

Passengers on the IndiGo flight from Jaipur to Chennai were left wondering why the flight didn't land in the first attempt.

AAI officials said the flight from Jaipur was estimated to land at the Chennai airport at 1.05 p.m., but unfavourable wind conditions forced the pilot to make a 'go-around'.

#### **Crosswind conditions**

"At 12.45 p.m., the pilot attempted to make a landing, but due to crosswind conditions, the flight touched down and immediately left. Subsequently, the pilot did a 'go-around' and returned to the airport at 12.58 p.m. For a safe landing, he went around and came back," an official said.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

27 OCTOBER 2024

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## 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.

## Airport Etiquette

India, as they say on the backs of trucks, is on the move. Truly, she is, through all modes of transport. Land, air, river, and a bit of the sea too, in the form of cruises and island trips. And roads, of course, are heaving with all kinds of vehicles, of all shapes and sizes, with people commuting to work, out for some entertainment, or moving off for a road trip. Some of these are packed to the gills with people, while others, humungous vehicles, purr along with just a tycoon on the back seat being driven by a uniformed and silent chauffeur.

But the real change in modes of travel has been in the airline sector. It takes those of us who are a "certain age" to remember those bad old days of queuing up like supplicants before the might of the Indian Airlines booking staff. These days, a couple of clicks on one's phone through the relevant app is all it takes to book flights to any corner of the world, while credit card options ensure that one can fly now and pay later.

All this is very admirable, though it does mean that almost all domestic flights are up full, with every last seat being occupied. Gone are the days when one could stretch out on three seats and nap to one's destination. Still, one cannot really complain because this ensures that prices are kept at previously unheard-of lows, enabling us all to travel frequently.

While all this is good, the problem arises in the etiquette department. As in all walks and actions of life, there are some mores, some customs if you will, which need to be adhered to. This is necessary for the good of all. When each one of us does this, it makes for a very smooth travel experience for all of us. Each one, for the good of all. Etiquette, expected behaviour, civilised modes of conduct are after all nothing more than plain good manners, based on the basic principles of consideration and kindness. The Me First attitude, so uncaring of the needs of our co-passengers, is not only distasteful and annoying, it is also totally loutish and a mark of being uncouth and badly brought up.

First and foremost is the queue. No etiquette here, just slyly trying to cut in ahead of as many other commuters as possible. As one wheels one's carry on spinner in

### ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

Mitra Phukan



Even before the aircraft has rolled to a complete stop, there is a stampede, much pushing and elbowing, to get out first. What for, one wonders. After all, everybody has to wait for the checked baggage to come around, anyway.

the line, there is this one guy who seems to have perfected the art of queue cutting. He looks into the middle distance, with a serious look on his face, but all this is a disguise. Stealthily, skilfully, he manoeuvres himself in such a way that soon he has overtaken 20 people and is now at the head of the queue. Such a contrast to the discipline of so many other countries, where even stepping ahead by mistake is followed by profuse and embarrassed apologies.

Besides, there is no concept among us about keeping a distance from the person ahead of us. Bodily contact with the person ahead in front is taken for granted, though this is so distasteful to most people, even though it is not a sexual contact. But the concept of respecting the other person's space is not generally followed here. However, it is time this was learned by those who are ignorant of it.

A related phenomenon, which is perhaps an inevitable corollary, is that of pushing. With so much body contact around, there is much pushing and shoving, as though

by doing so one can speed up the process of checking in, or getting through security check. Is shoving, then, part of our "glorious ancient culture" which some of us are so fond of boasting about? This is especially seen while getting down from the flights. In other countries, there is a protocol which is respected. Starting from the front rows, the passengers seated on other rows calmly and quietly get up, and retrieve their carry-ons from the overhead bins, and then move on to the exits.

Not here, of course. Even before the aircraft has rolled to a complete stop, there is a stampede, much pushing and elbowing, to get out first. What for, one wonders. After all, everybody has to wait for the checked baggage to come around, anyway.

Then there are the irritants such as the kid who kicks you from behind all through the flight, with the parents looking indulgently on. And of course every so often, we come across the passenger, perfectly fit and fine, who wants you to exchange your window seat for her middle one, even though you have paid extra for this seat. Sometimes this comes with a bit of attempted emotional blackmail, with a whiny brat who sobs piteously that he wants the window seat. Well, too bad. The mom should have spent some extra money and bought that seat for the dear darling.

And of course the big whammy of them all... washroom etiquette. We Indians must be having the worst toilet habits in the world. We leave public toilets in a filthy state after we use them, with no consideration for others, or for public property. It also comes from ignorance, perhaps, with first-time flyers not quite sure about how to use a Western style toilet properly. It would be a good idea to have an instruction leaflet, or poster, in the washrooms themselves. Some countries do have them. Also, the washroom attendants can help in this regard by catching and shaming those who make a mess and then try to flee. They deserve all the embarrassment they get.

All Things Considered, progress seems to be having its own set of problems, big as well as small.

*(Mitra Phukan is a novelist, short-story writer, translator and trained Shastriya Sangeet vocalist.)*



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024



### JUST IN JEST

Mumbai Airport's Pawfect initiative is a win, but where are the desi legends?

## Had a Rough Flight? Call Paw Patrol

Life is ruff, and most of the time we're suffering from 'jet-wag the dog' anyway. But add air travel to the equation, which makes us feel as if we've signed up for a mystery thriller where itineraries are as known as a torn-out last page. Between surprise delays, boarding scrambles, and fashionably late luggage of eternally-rolling conveyor belts, it's a toss-up between whether you'll arrive with your sanity, or with your suitcase. Then, of course, we have a spree of hoax announcements. Altogether, you're just one exasperated breath away from shouting, 'Abort mission!'

But now, Mumbai Airport's got the ultimate travel hack—the 'Pawfect' programme at T2. With emotional support dogs ready to calm frayed nerves, offer puppy eyes, and remind you that even if your luggage is MIA, unconditional love is right here with its tongue lolling. The lineup? A golden retriever, a labrador, a rescued husky, all set to melt that travel stress away.

We love it. But where's the true maximum city vibe? In a city brimming with high-EQI indies, shouldn't we see some of these local legends at T2? After all, this is Ratan Tata city. Imagine an indie sitting next to you, giving that classic side-eye as if to say, 'Arrey bhai, chill, it's just a flight delay.' So, Mumbai Airport, your Pawfect programme's a hit. But how about adding an indie squad to the mix?



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HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

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## मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर यात्री कुत्तों के साथ खेल पाएंगे

मुंबई। मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे ने अपनी लोकप्रिय पहल 'पॉफुल' को फिर से शुरू करने की घोषणा की है। यह पहल यात्रियों को टर्मिनल टी 2 पर कुत्तों को दुलारने और उनके साथ खेलने की अनुमति देता है। हवाई अड्डे के अधिकारियों ने कहा कि इस मनोरंजक कार्यक्रम में टर्मिनल 2 पर नौ प्यारे कुत्ते शामिल हैं, जिन्हें यात्रियों को अपनी यात्रा शुरू करने के दौरान आकर्षित करने और आराम देने के लिए प्रशिक्षित किया गया है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDU

CHENNAI

27 OCTOBER 2024

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## Renovated terminal 1 of Jaipur airport inaugurated

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma inaugurated terminal 1 of the Jaipur international airport here on Saturday for arrival and departure of international flights exclusively. The terminal, which will become operational from Sunday midnight, will have an annual capacity of 15 lakh passengers. The airport will now have two terminals, as terminal 2 is already operational for domestic flights. Terminal 1 has been started for passengers with its renovation after a gap of 11 years. The Jaipur international airport is operated by Adani Group, which took over its management in October 2021 on a lease for 50 years.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

27 OCTOBER 2024

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## Bomb scare at IGI Airport, suspect taken into custody

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

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**NEW DELHI:** Two messages on social media sent out on Saturday morning prompted an early-hour bomb scare at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, and before anyone was hurt, security at the IGI Airport was contacted and standard emergency procedures invoked as passengers and staff were moved to safety.

Later, an FIR was lodged under Sections of the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against Safety of Civil Aviation (SUA SCA Act 1982) and 351(4) of BNS, and an official investigation was initiated. The authorities soon located the source of the messages as belonging to one Shubham Upadhyay (25), a resident of Rajapuri, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi. The accused is a Class XII student and was unemployed.

In an extensive investigation involving manual intelligence as well as technical intelligence, they arrested Shubham, after which, during interrogation, it was revealed that he had issued a threat as he was moved by a similar news headline on television, and he too longed to be in the public talk. After investigations, the bomb threats were said to be a hoax and the authorities are still probing. Law enforcement assures the public that all measures to ensure security are available while asking citizens to be extra careful.

## एयरपोर्ट एप्रन का होगा विस्तार, खड़े हो सकेंगे एक साथ छह विमान

एक्सक्लूसिव

कालीचरण  
patrika.com

**मदनगंज-किशनगढ़ (अजमेर).** किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट विस्तार में एक और अहम कदम बढ़ाने की दिशा में कवायद की जा रही है। एयरपोर्ट एप्रन के विस्तार की हरी झंडी मिलने के बाद टेंडर प्रक्रिया पूरी कर ली गई है। अब दीपावली बाद एप्रन विस्तार का काम शुरू होगा। इसके बाद एयरपोर्ट एप्रन (पार्किंग) में अब किसी भी समय एक साथ छह विमान खड़े हो सकेंगे। साथ ही जयपुर एयरपोर्ट एप्रन में फ्लाइट के खड़े रहने की जगह नहीं होने की सूरत में भी किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट पर फ्लाइट की लैंडिंग



किशनगढ़. किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट का टर्मिनल भवन।

करवाकर फ्लाइट को एप्रन में खड़ा किया जा सकेगा। किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट पर वर्तमान में केवल दो शेड्यूल फ्लाइट के अनुरूप ही एप्रन बना हुआ है। ऐसे में एयरपोर्ट

के एप्रन में एक समय में मात्र दो ही विमान पार्क किए जा सकते हैं। किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट एप्रन एक्सटेंशन के लिए एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन ने भारतीय विमान पत्तन प्राधिकरण नई दिल्ली

### इन शहरों के लिए प्रस्तावित हैं फ्लाइट

उड़ान-2 स्कीम के तहत दिल्ली, मुंबई, अहमदाबाद, सूरत, जेसलमेर, जोधपुर, उदयपुर, बेंगलूर, पूना कलकत्ता, चेन्नई, गुवाहाटी, अमृतसर, जम्मू एवं देहरादून इत्यादि के लिए भी हवाई सेवाएं प्रस्तावित हैं। जबकि वर्तमान में हिन्डन (दिल्ली), लखनऊ, पुणे, नागपुर एवं हैदराबाद के लिए हवाई सेवा उपलब्ध है।



### इनका कहना है...

एयरपोर्ट एप्रन में वर्तमान में दो फ्लाइट खड़ी हो सकती हैं। एप्रन एक्सटेंशन के बाद यहां एक समय में एक साथ छह फ्लाइट एप्रन में खड़ी होने की सुविधा रहेगी। इनमें एयरबस 320 जैसे बड़े विमान भी शामिल हैं।

- **बी. एल. मीणा**, निदेशक,  
किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट

पत्तन प्राधिकरण किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट को जयपुर एयरपोर्ट के विकल्प के रूप में ध्यान में रखते हुए इसके विस्तार की योजना पर काम कर रहा है। एप्रन एक्सटेंशन की अपूर्व भी इसी कड़ी में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।

को पत्र प्रेषित कर आवश्यकता जताई।

इस पर प्राधिकरण मुख्यालय के प्लानिंग डायरेक्टर ने चार और विमान को खड़ा करने की क्षमता के लिए

एप्रन एक्सटेंशन की अपूर्व दी। एप्रन एक्सटेंशन कार्य की टेंडर प्रक्रिया पूरी कर ली गई है। अब दीपावली बाद एयरपोर्ट एप्रन एक्सटेंशन का काम शुरू होगा। भारतीय विमान



# Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

JAIPUR

27 OCTOBER 2024

दीपावली से पहले सौगात... जयपुर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर हैरिटेज लुक वाले टर्मिनल-1 का उद्घाटन

## नया रूप विदेशी निवेश को करेगा आकर्षित : मुख्यमंत्री

**जयपुर @ पत्रिका.** जयपुर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर हैरिटेज लुक के साथ नवनिर्मित टर्मिनल के उद्घाटन समारोह में मुख्यमंत्री भजनलाल शर्मा ने कहा कि जयपुर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट प्रदेश की विकास यात्रा में अहम भूमिका निभा रहा है और टर्मिनल एक का यह नया रूप अंतरराष्ट्रीय निवेश को आकर्षित करने में सहायक होगा। यहां वर्तमान में यात्री क्षमता 65 लाख है, जो भविष्य में 3.80 करोड़ तक बढ़ाई जाएगी, जिससे युवाओं के लिए रोजगार के अवसर सृजित होंगे।



**विदेशी मेहमान भी ले पाएंगे हैरिटेज का अनुभव**

उन्होंने कहा कि राइजिंग राजस्थान ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टमेंट समिट में आने वाले विदेशी मेहमान भी इस हैरिटेज टर्मिनल का अनुभव ले पाएंगे। कार्यक्रम में अडाणी ग्रुप एयरपोर्ट के निदेशक जीत अडाणी, अडाणी एयरपोर्ट होलिंग्स लिमिटेड के सीईओ अरुण बंसल और जयपुर एयरपोर्ट के सीईओ विष्णुमोहन झा सहित अन्य अधिकारी भी मौजूद रहे।

## राइजिंग राजस्थान ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टमेंट समिट में मिलेगा लाभ: मुख्यमंत्री जयपुर एयरपोर्ट पर टर्मिनल एक शुरू, अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें अब यहीं से

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जयपुर . दीपावली से पहले राजधानी जयपुर को सांगानेर स्थित जयपुर इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट पर नवनिर्मित हैरिटेज लुक वाले टर्मिनल एक की सौगात मिली है। मुख्यमंत्री भजनलाल शर्मा, सांसद मंजू शर्मा और एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन के अधिकारियों ने शनिवार को टर्मिनल का उद्घाटन किया।

इस अवसर पर मुख्यमंत्री शर्मा ने कहा कि 9 से 11 दिसंबर को होने वाली राइजिंग राजस्थान ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टमेंट समिट के दौरान इस हैरिटेज टर्मिनल का अनुभव लेने का अवसर विदेशी मेहमानों को मिलेगा। मुख्यमंत्री ने



टर्मिनल में उपलब्ध यात्री सुविधाओं का भी निरीक्षण किया। लगभग 11 साल बाद पुनः शुरू हुए इस टर्मिनल की अनोखी विशेषता है कि, यहां पर प्रदेश की संस्कृति और धरोहरों की झलक देखने को मिलेगी।

शनिवार रात को टर्मिनल एक पर पहली अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ान एतिहाद एयरवेज की अबू धाबी से जयपुर

### विशेषताएं...

- प्रस्थान क्षेत्र में 10 और आगमन क्षेत्र में 14 इमिग्रेशन काउंटर।
- 10 चेक-इन काउंटर।
- इयूटी फ्री आउटलेट्स।
- मेडिकल रूम और 24 घंटे एंबुलेंस सेवा।
- आरामदायक लाउंज।

फुड्ची, जिसमें आर यात्रियों का स्वागत किया गया। रविवार से टर्मिनल एक से सभी अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें संचालित होंगी, जिनमें अबू धाबी, दुबई, बैंकॉक, शारजाह, मस्कट और कुआलालम्पुर की उड़ानें शामिल हैं। वहीं, घरेलू उड़ानों का संचालन जवाहर सर्कल स्थित टर्मिनल दो से जारी रहेगा।

(पेज 09 भी देखें)



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE STATESMAN

KOLKATA

27 OCTOBER 2024

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## Renovated Jaipur airport terminal reopened 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 TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

# ‘Human bomb’ on plane: Man makes hoax call to target aunt

**V.Narayan**  
@timesofindia.com

**Mumbai:** A 60-year-old woman from Andheri (West) dubbed as ‘human bomb’, carrying Rs 90 lakh, and on her way to meet her boyfriend. This is what an anonymous caller told an official at Delhi airport control room.

Officials of Sahar police station where a case was registered said the caller was identified as

the nephew of the woman, Gouri Bharwani. A police team has been formed to track the man.

The hoax call, made at 1.30 am Friday, claimed a woman was flying from Mumbai to Delhi and board a flight from Delhi to Uzbekistan to meet her boyfriend. The message — “she is carrying Rs 90 lakh and is a human bomb” — was relayed to Mumbai authorities, prompting agencies to

gather information on passengers leaving the city. Police visited the Andheri address mentioned by the caller but found the woman had relocated long ago.

On obtaining her details, they approached her only to find out that she was 60 year old and had never bought a flight ticket. The caller was suspected to be the woman’s nephew who allegedly made the call due to a family dispute.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

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### **Live bullets found in bag, NC MLA detained at Srinagar airport**

**Srinagar:** CISF and J&K police detained and questioned National Conference's Srigufwara-Bijbehara MLA, Bashir Ahmad Veeri, at Srinagar airport after security staff recovered two live pistol bullets from his baggage during an X-ray scan on Sunday, reports **Saleem Pandit**.

Veeri, traveling to Jammu on an IndiGo flight, was later released after he claimed the bullets belonged to his licensed pistol, for which he produced documents. Passengers are not allowed to carry even licensed bullets in their baggage or on their person during air travel.

## SVPI expands T2 departure hall



Yogesh Chawda

An extended check-in hall was inaugurated at Terminal 2 at SVPI airport

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Ahmedabad:** The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) airport in Ahmedabad expanded its departure hall at Terminal 2 on Saturday, just in time for the Diwali rush. This move aims to streamline the travel experience for international passengers.

The upgraded space, spanning 2,100 sq m, has facilities including a new departure gate and an expanded check-in hall equipped with 20 additional check-in counters. The area now also includes two self-baggage drop counters. Self-service kiosks have been installed to let passengers print their boarding passes.

The terminal also showcases two artworks that celebrate the heritage and culture of Gujarat. One artwork draws inspiration from the bustling pols of Ahmedabad and the renowned Sidi Saiyyed Jali while the other features a statue titled 'Pride of Gujarat', showcasing Asiatic lions.

Between April and Sep 2024, the SVPI airport handled 10 lakh international passeng-

### London-bound flight gets bomb threat

The AI 171 flight between Ahmedabad and London was delayed by about five hours after receiving a bomb threat. The security teams thoroughly checked the aircraft before it took off around 6.30pm, sources said. The scheduled departure was 1.37pm. "A number of Air India flights were subject to security threats received on social media on Oct 26. Relevant authorities were alerted, and security procedures were strictly adhered to," mentioned a statement by Air India. TNN

ers compared to the same period last year, according to data furnished by the AAI. Overall, the airport handled 60 lakh passengers during H1, marking an 8% growth. Of these, 50 lakh were domestic travellers, with a 6% rise, while international segment saw stronger growth. Global destinations like Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait were among the most-travelled.

## Schools to airports, teens are cooking up bomb threats

A 17-year-old from Chhattisgarh was detained for disrupting three flights with his threatening tweets but it's not an isolated case. *Sunday Times* looks at how minors are creating major problems

Sneha.Bhara@timesofindia.com

**E**nless security checks at airports can test anyone's patience, and it's not uncommon to hear a frustrated traveler say, "I'm not exactly carrying a bomb." While such remarks might stem from irritation, the four-letter word is no laughing matter even when it's a joke or a hoax.

The ongoing avalanche of bomb threats sent to over 350 domestic and international flights since October 13 has cost the Indian aviation industry losses over Rs 500 crore, not to mention the disruptions and delays faced by passengers. Though culprits are hard to track down, sometimes it's not the work of a sophisticated gang but a troubled teenager or a minor who thinks it's okay to pull a prank. In one case involving disruptions to three international flights — two operated by IndiGo and one by Air India — Mumbai police managed to trace the threats to a 17-year-old boy from Chhattisgarh who had used proxy accounts to post them.

Cops in Rajnandgaon, where the boy's family lives, describe the 17-year-old school dropout as "tech-savvy". "He has posted YouTube reviews of gadgets, and unboxing videos," says Mohit Garg, superintendent of police at Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh.

Teenagers issuing the occasional prank threat is not unknown, but it's fast turning from an isolated case to a worrying problem. Many are just copycat moves to draw attention while on other occasions, it is a bid to avoid an exam or disrupt classes.

In August, Delhi police identified a 14-year-old student behind a bomb threat email to Summer Fields School in south Delhi. The student later admitted that the email was a

### PRANKS TO COPYCATS

**Erndle, Sept** | Two students issue a bomb threat to Jaycees Matriculation Higher Secondary School, forcing the school to shut down for the day. They are let off with a warning

**Delhi, Aug** | A 14-year-old student is suspected to have emailed Summer Fields School, GK, and two other schools to avoid attending classes



**DANGER DIALS:** There has been a troubling rise in high-stakes pranks, often driven by a need for attention or validation among those who have faced bullying, isolation or violence

hoax to avoid attending school. (The school did not agree to an interview for this article). In June, a 13-year-old from Meerut was arrested for sending a hoax bomb threat to Delhi's international airport, targeting a Toronto-bound flight. The minor confessed to making the threat "just for fun", saying he was inspired by similar incidents in the news. The threat to Mumbai museums in January was the work of a 13-year-old gamer in Assam, who had been duped into creating an email ID by a fellow gamer who then used it to make threats.

While rebelliousness is a normal part of adolescence, when it leads to antisocial actions like issuing bomb threats, it takes on a pathological overtone, says senior child and adolescent psychiatrist Sapna Bangar. "Teenagers are ruled by their



emotional brain, while their frontal brain — the part responsible for assessing consequences — is not fully developed. This makes them more prone to impulsive actions, without thinking through the consequences," says Bangar, adding that many teenagers who engage in such behaviour are often seeking attention or validation. "They may come from backgrounds where they've experienced bullying, isolation, and even violence at home or they want to look like the cool one in the gang. Without proper guidance or awareness of consequences for smaller actions, this behaviour can go too far, especially with easy access to social media."

Cops say the Rajnandgaon teen had a history of erratic behaviour: "He dropped out of school alleging bullying and his behaviour was marked by a history of depressive episodes and self-harm," says Garg. He even tried to jump from a terrace once and put up a video of it online. "He has already been involved in multiple legal incidents, including filing a FIR against an individual he accused of sexual assault and harassment," says Garg. Police suspect that the X account used to issue the bomb threat may have been a fake one, potentially created by the minor himself to frame the same individual in a bid to take revenge. "After the tweet, he is believed to have called the Mumbai and the UP police, saying he knew the culprit," adds Garg. The minor's father, a

footwear businessman, is believed to be embroiled in financial difficulties.

Besides airports, there have been increasing incidents of bomb hoaxes in schools across the country. In May this year, 100 schools in Delhi-NCR went into an evacuation tizzy after receiving email threats. In December last year, more than 40 schools in Bengaluru were similarly sent emails threatening blasts. Divya Bhatia, principal at Delhi's Anity International School in Saket which also received a hand-written bomb threat in Hindi in their postal box in December, says these are anxious and difficult times. "We conduct drills for earthquakes and fires but we have never had one for a bomb hoax. That changed after these incidents. We have created a new evacuation plan specifically for bomb threats that includes protocols on how to remain calm and communicate with parents."

In several cases, juveniles have been found responsible for pulling the hoax. Three weeks ago, police found that behind the threat to blow up a Ludhiana school was a 15-year-old boy who studied in Class 9. He and a 'friend' he made on the app Discord cooked up the idea together. All he wanted was a day off from school.

But this doesn't mean that such threats can be taken lightly. The issue is not confined to teenagers seeking a day off from school, says cyber security expert Jiten Jain. "While some cases might be pranks, others suggest more organised efforts, possibly by a state-sponsored actor or non-state actors with a specific objective," adds Jain.

He says most anonymous calls and emails are hard to trace because VPNs and proxies are used to hide and mask callers' identities. "Even if authorities can trace the last known IP address, it might just be a 'termination point' — the final stop before the message was delivered. This doesn't reveal the original source because the real IP address is hidden behind several layers of virtual servers, making it nearly impossible to pinpoint the actual location of the sender," explains Jain. Moreover, fake calls often originate from VoIP gateways, which allow users to make virtual calls.

Though India has strict laws against fake bomb threats — offenders can be charged with life imprisonment — the govt is now planning to amend the Aircraft Act of 1934 to impose stricter penalties for threats. In the cases of school threats, sometimes the authorities decide to let the culprit go with a warning. However, psychologists say that counselling to make minors understand the consequences of their actions is essential.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

BANGALORE

27 OCTOBER 2024

## Stringent steps in place for secure lounge access: KIA

**Nithya.Mandyam**  
@timesofindia.com

**Bengaluru:** After a video clip detailing a cybercrime incident at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) lounge went viral, many netizens raised concerns about safety. In response, Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which manages KIA, has reassured the public the lounge is secure. "The KIA lounge is safe," said a BIAL official. "We have robust security measures in place to prevent cyberfraud and ensure secure access to the lounge."

On Sept 29, a passenger — Bhargavi Mani from Chennai

— lost Rs 87,000 while attempting to use the lounge facilities. Bhargavi, who didn't have her credit card with her, showed a photo of it to the lounge



staff, who told her to use a 'Lounge Pass'. Bhargavi, who was communicating with her friend, narrated what was happening. The latter searched for a Lounge Pass app on Google and forwarded the link that appeared on top of the page to her. She downloaded the same and started following the instructions, which included giving her



credentials. Bhargavi said: "A lady called, with background noise that resembled a busy airport, saying the IT team would like to do a facial recognition and sent me a screen-sharing request." The call went on for about five minutes.

After following the app's instructions, Bhargavi noticed her phone calls were being redirected, though she initially attributed it to network issues. Friends later alerted her that her calls were

being answered by strangers. Shocked, she discovered that Rs 87,000 had been deducted from her credit card. Further investigation revealed that the scammers had intercepted OTPs and redirected calls to facilitate the transfer of funds to a PhonePe account using the 'Lounge Pass' app.

Despite the distressing experience, Bhargavi clarified that she doesn't hold BIAL responsible for the scam and expressed appreciation for their quick response, noting that BIAL contacted her to offer assistance. She has since reported the incident to the cybercrime police, blocked her credit card, and informed her

bank. While this app may be familiar to international flyers, the Indian version is not authentic. This video put the spotlight on such fake apps which the general public should be aware of. During investigation, it was found that the link was a dummy URL, pulling from the original website, Bhargavi posted online.

"KIA remains a secure space with stringent cybersecurity measures. Passengers can feel confident using the lounge but should remain cautious and avoid downloading unauthorized apps," advised George Fanthome, chief digital and information officer, BIAL.

# Schools to airports, teens are cooking up bomb threats

A 17-yr-old from Chhattisgarh was detained for disrupting three flights with his threatening tweets but it's not an isolated case. *Sunday Times* looks at how minors are creating major problems

Soha Bhura@timesofindia.com

**E**nough security checks at airports can test anyone's patience, and it's not uncommon to hear a frustrated traveler say, "I'm not exactly carrying a bomb." While such remarks might stem from irritation, the four-letter word is no laughing matter even when it's a joke or a hoax.

The ongoing avalanche of bomb threats sent to over 150 domestic and international flights since October 13 has cost the Indian aviation industry losses over Rs 500 crore, not to mention the disruptions and delays faced by passengers. Though culprits are hard to track down, sometimes it's not the work of a sophisticated gang but a troubled teenager or a minor who thinks it's okay to pull a prank. In one case involving disruptions to three international flights — two operated by IndiGo and one by Air India — Mumbai police managed to trace the threats to a 17-year-old boy from Chhattisgarh who had used proxy accounts to post them.

Cops in Rajnandgaon, where the boy's family lives, describe the 17-year-old school dropout as "tech-savvy". "He has posted YouTube reviews of gadgets, and unboxing videos," says Mohit Garg, superintendent of police at Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh.

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hoax to avoid attending school. (The school did not agree to an interview for this article.) In June, a 15-year-old from Meerut was arrested for sending a hoax bomb threat to Delhi's international airport, targeting a Toronto-bound flight. The minor confessed to making the threat "just for fun", saying he was inspired by similar incidents in the news. The threat to Mumbai museums in January was the work of a 12-year-old gamer in Assam, who had been duped into creating an email ID by a fellow gamer who then used it to make threats.

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Cops say the Rajnandgaon teen had a history of erratic behaviour. "He dropped out of school alleging bullying and his behaviour was marked by a history of depressive episodes and self-harm," says Garg. He even tried to jump from a terrace once and put up a video of it online. "He has already been involved in multiple legal incidents, including filing a FIR against an individual he accused of sexual assault and harassment," says Garg. Police suspect that the X account used to issue the bomb threat may have been a fake one, potentially created by the minor himself to frame the same individual in a bid to take revenge. "After the tweet, he is believed to have called the Mumbai and the UP police, saying he knew the culprit," adds Garg. The minor's father, a

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## PRANKS TO COPYCATS

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**Delhi, Aug** | A 14-year-old student is suspected to have emailed Summer Fields School, GK, and two other schools to avoid attending classes

**Meerut, June** | A 13-year-old was apprehended for sending a hoax bomb threat email to Delhi airport about an Air Canada flight "just for fun" after seeing similar incidents in the news

**Mumbai, Jan** | Police trace bomb threat emails targeting museums in Mumbai, Kolkata and Karnataka to a 12-year-old in Assam. The minor claims to have been incited by an online gaming "friend"

## *Despite poor facilities, Adani group hikes tariff at Guwahati airport*



**RITURAJ BORTHAKUR**

GUWAHATI, Oct 26: Perhaps the only thing 'international' about the Guwahati airport is the handful of flights to overseas destinations. Substandard facilities at the airport have come in for increasing criticism by passengers, particularly international travellers.

The international boarding and arrival lounge of the airport has been functioning from makeshift arrangements for years now. The peak area capacity of the international boarding lounge

is around 100, and passengers standing and sitting on decks of other infrastructure is common scene there.

"If the flight is full, passengers won't get a seat at the lounge. While the check-in has to be done 3-4 hours in advance, passengers will have to endure several hours in the small room which is worse than a canteen. There is just one coffee shop and the passengers do not have access to food stalls," said Ravi, a frequent traveller.

## **Despite poor ...**

(Contd from page 1)

Temporary physical barriers have been set up to separate domestic and international passengers. The peak hour capacity in the domestic terminal is also around 450, but it is having to cater to around 1,200 passengers.

There have been frequent incidents of luggage mishandling as well. On October 19, several passengers travelling from Kuala Lumpur reported non-arrival of their check-in baggage. Airlines have also deployed limited staff to handle such grievances.

Three years after taking over the airport, the Adani group, which has done little to improve the facilities, has hiked the airport charges for airlines. The hike in landing charges for airlines has prompted some international operators to re-think on continuing operations from here, sources said.

In mid-September, the user development fee (UDF) – payable by passengers – was also hiked. Before the Adani group took over the airport in 2021, the UDF for domestic passengers and international passengers was Rs 379 and Rs 499, respectively.

The applicable UDF for embarking passenger will be Rs 555 (domestic) and Rs 770 (international) from September 16, 2024, to March 31 next year. From 2025, it will be hiked to Rs 625 and Rs 980, and in 2026 it will be raised to Rs 695 and Rs 1,120. The UDF will also be applicable now for disembarking passengers which was not there before, according to the new tariff order.

Construction of the new integrated terminal has been delayed by more than 48 months, which has also resulted in cost overrun. The original cost of the new terminal was Rs 1,142 crore, and now it is anticipated to cross Rs 2,333 crore.

Sources privy to the developments said that frequent change of policy and design has contributed to the delay. The new date for completion of the terminal is July 2025.

Currently, international flights operate to and from four places from the airport – Paro, Singapore, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur.

» SEE PAGE 10



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

27 OCTOBER 2024

# Security measures taken to prevent attack on flights

**R DUTTA CHOUDHURY**

GUWAHATI, Oct 26: Bomb threats to airlines of late have become a serious cause for concern as the flight schedules in the country have gone haywire due to such threats, but fortunately, all these calls have been found to be hoax ones.

Security sources told *The Assam Tribune* that though no terrorist outfit has so far planted a bomb on or hijacked an aircraft with prior warning, no one can take chances with the lives of hundreds of passengers at stake.

## 33 flights get bomb threats

NEW DELHI, Oct 26: As many as 33 flights received bomb threats on Saturday, according to sources. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

The IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation. – PTI

Sources said that in case of all the bombings and hijacking incidents, the terrorists involved succeeded because of the surprise element and they often took special measures to breach the security. But no one issued prior threats to commit such a crime.

Sources, however, said that no one can take a chance and whenever such a threat is received, all the passengers had to be deboarded and the aircraft has to be thoroughly checked before resuming the flight operations.

» SEE PAGE 10

## Security ...

(Contd from page 1)

They said thorough checking of the aircraft takes hours and that affects the other flights and thus, the entire aviation sector gets hit. In 13 days, more than 300 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats.

Sources said some mischief mongers are trying to harm the Indian aviation sector at a time when all the airlines are feeling the pressure of extra passengers due to the festive season and efforts are on to trace out the culprits.

"There have been instances when more than a hundred flights received bomb threats and, in such cases, we can take it a bit easy as it is impossible to plant bombs in so many flights. But when only a few flights receive such threats, no one can take a risk," they added.

Asked why the mischief mongers could not be nabbed, sources said that in most cases, the dark net or proxy servers were used to make calls and those are difficult to detect. But all the security agencies are on the job to trace out the culprits.

Sources also expressed the hope that sooner or later, the culprits would be traced. They also urged upon the passengers not to worry as adequate security measures have been taken to prevent any attack on flights.

## नहीं थम रहा सिलसिला...50 और उड़ानों को बम की धमकी

दो सप्ताह में 350 से अधिक उड़ानों को मिल चुकी है धमकी

नई दिल्ली। तीन भारतीय एयरलाइंस की 50 उड़ानों को रविवार को फिर बम से उड़ाने की धमकियां मिलीं। इनमें अकासा एयर की 15, इंडिगो की 18 और विस्तारा की 17 उड़ानें शामिल हैं।

इंडिगो ने धमकी के बाद पुणे से जोधपुर की उड़ान को अहमदाबाद और कोझीकोड से दम्मम की उड़ान को मुंबई में उतारा, जिन्हें जांच के बाद रवाना किया। बंगलूरु से अयोध्या और गोरखपुर होते हुए दिल्ली जाने वाली उड़ानों की भी धमकी मिलने पर जांच की गई। बीते दो सप्ताह में 350 से अधिक उड़ानों को धमकियां मिल चुकी हैं। ज्यादातर धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के जरिये दी गईं। ब्यूरो



अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों से ले रहे मदद विशाखापत्तनम। विमानों को लगातार मिल रही धमकियां रोकने के लिए सरकार अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों, कानून प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों, खुफिया ब्यूरो की मदद ले रही है। नागरिक उड़्डयन मंत्री के राममोहन नायडू ने बताया कि कानूनों में बदलाव कर धमकी देने वालों को सख्त सजा देने और जुर्माना लगाने का प्रावधान किया जाएगा। एजेंसी



# Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## पीएम आज करेंगे टाटा-एयरबस संयंत्र का उद्घाटन

स्पेन के पीएम पेद्रो सांचेज भी रहेंगे मौजूद, संयंत्र में 2026 तक पहला स्वदेशी सी-295 विमान तैयार होने की उम्मीद

नई दिल्ली। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और उनके स्पेनिश समकक्ष पेद्रो सांचेज सोमवार को वडोदरा में टाटा-एयरबस विमान संयंत्र का उद्घाटन करेंगे। सांचेज 28 से 30 अक्टूबर तक भारत की यात्रा पर रहेंगे। इस संयंत्र से सितंबर 2026 तक पहला मेड इन इंडिया सी-295 परिवहन विमान तैयार होने की उम्मीद है।



दुर्गम स्थानों पर रसद ले जाने में सक्षम...सी-295 एक बेहतर विमान है। इसका इस्तेमाल 71 सैनिकों या 50 पैराट्रूपर्स के सामरिक परिवहन के लिए किया जाता है। यह विमान उन स्थानों पर रसद ले जाने में सक्षम है, जहां भारी विमान नहीं पहुंच सकते हैं। यह विमान विशेष मिशन के साथ आपदा और समुद्री गश्ती कर्तव्यों को पूरा करने में सक्षम है।

भारत ने 2021 में 56 सी-295 परिवहन विमान खरीदने के लिए एयरबस के साथ एक अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे। इनमें से 16 सीधे स्पेन से भेजे जाने थे, जबकि 40 का निर्माण भारत में वडोदरा में टाटा संयंत्र में किया जाना है। अगस्त 2031 तक सभी 40 विमानों की डिलीवरी पूरी कर ली जाएगी।

# Vistara, Air India merger: Navigating brand synergy

Experts say the merged entity will draw on USPs of both firms

ANUSHKA BHARDWAJ  
New Delhi, 27 October

In about a fortnight, Vistara – known for its premium service – will take off on its final flight before merging into the legacy of Air India. Set for November 12, the merger has sparked discussions on how these two distinct brands will blend.

Air India’s website highlights the merger with the tagline “Unveiling the possibilities,” while Vistara’s reads, “#ToLimitlessPossibilities”. Despite a unified vision, branding experts point out the challenges of merging their unique selling points, customer approaches, and contrasting cultures.

“It’s a complex scenario. The two brands currently occupy opposite ends of the spectrum,” says Santosh E G, a Bengaluru-based brand and marketing consultant.

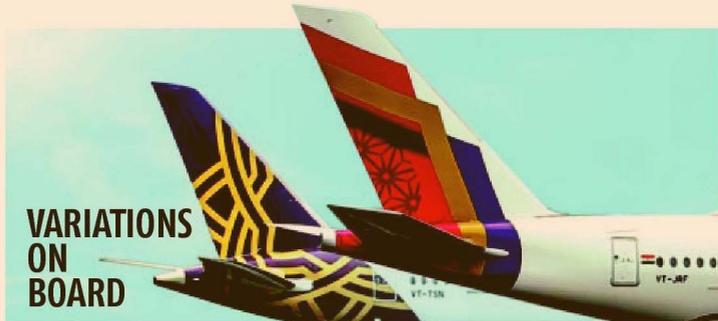
Air India’s identity is steeped in heritage, with its iconic Maharaja mascot and Jharokha-style windows offering a cost-effective option for long-haul travel. “It’s perceived as more economical,” notes Santosh.

In contrast, Vistara has attracted a niche audience that’s willing to pay extra for a more refined, global standard of service. “From its colour palette to crew uniforms, Vistara is more aligned with Singapore Airlines than with anything typically Indian,” he adds. Vistara, a joint venture between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines, will see Singapore Airlines retaining a 25.1 per cent stake in the merged entity. Currently, it has 49 per cent, with Tata Sons holding the majority stake of 51 per cent. Experts see the presence of Singapore Airlines post the merger as a strategic move that will bolster Air India’s tech capabilities and global reach.

## When 1+1 isn’t 2

Experts agree that this is a merger of unequals. “The lesser prestigious of the two is leading the brand,” says Santosh Desai, CEO of Futurebrands, a brand consultancy. “Air India must integrate Vistara’s strengths while adding its own upgrades.”

Jitender Bhargava, former executive director of Air India and author of “The Descent of Air India”, believes the Maharaja’s larger network and global recognition give it an edge.



## USPs

**Air India:** Cost-effective options, especially for long haul flights

**Vistara:** Premium experiences competing with global standards

## DISPLAY

**Air India:** Heritage look with Maharaja mascot and jharokha-style windows

**Vistara:** A colour palette and crew uniforms that align more with Singapore Airlines (49% stakeholder in the airline)

## Destinations they fly to

Air India	84
Vistara	50

## Performance

Best avg OTP in FY25, so far (in %)



“Today, you may question its productivity and efficiency, but there is a glorious past to the airline. People have a connection with it,” he says. With new aircraft like the A350 and a series of transformations, Bhargava says Air India is already nearing Vistara’s standards. Vistara’s focus on premium experiences has not gone unnoticed by Air India. “Existing members of Club Vistara — the airline’s frequent-flyer programme — will be seamlessly transferred to Air India’s Flying Returns programme,” Air India said last week.

While Air India is the larger brand, Vistara commands stronger loyalty among its smaller audience, brand experts say. “An Air India flyer may prioritise affordability, but Vistara’s clientele is loyal to its premium experience,” says Santosh. “The most promising outcome could be a shared brand platform of global, but with an Indian soul,” he suggests.

Performance data from March to September shows Vistara leading in on-time performance, peaking at 82.15 per cent in May.

## Until the lines blur

While Vistara will cease to exist after November 11, full integration will be

gradual. Air India CEO Campbell Wilson has assured passengers that “the Vistara in-flight experience is not going away,” but experts view the coming months as crucial for the success of the merger.

“The immediate challenge will be digital integration, customer support, and loyalty programmes,” says Karan Singh, co-founder of QSS Global, a New Delhi-based consulting firm. He adds that while Vistara flights will continue with the same fleet and crew, using Air India planes for certain flights may be necessary depending on scheduling complexities.

Bhargava highlights the merger’s impact on Air India’s workforce dynamics.

With several voluntary retirement schemes in place, Air India’s old-to-young employee ratio has already shifted to 3:7. With Vistara bringing in younger staff, that ratio could reach 1.5:8.5.

“The merged entity will benefit from both experience and fresh talent,” he says.

However, employees may face challenges. “Differences in leadership styles and organisational norms could lead to friction and reduced efficiency,” Singh cautions.

# At least 50 flights receive bomb threats; 2 diverted

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 27 October

At least 50 flights operated by Indian airlines received bomb threats and two of them were diverted on Sunday, according to sources.

In 14 days, more than 350 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

Akasa Air on Sunday said 15 of its flights got security alerts and after thorough inspections, all aircraft were released for operations.

The sources in the know said IndiGo received threats for 18 flights and Vistara for 17 flights.

Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu on Sunday said the Centre is mulling steps to ban perpetrators, who resort to hoax bomb threats, from flying.



**Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said the Centre was mulling steps to ban perpetrators who resort to hoax bomb threats**

The minister also said besides taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats, the union government is also mulling to amend two Civil Aviation Laws.



मुंबई अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा

# विकास के दीयों से रोशन धारावी का कुंभारवाडा

कुंभारवाडा को मुंबई इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड और अदाणी फाउंडेशन के लिए लाखों दीये बनाने का बड़ा ठेका मिला है

सुशील मिश्र

प्रकाश पर्व दीपावली की आहट ने देश भर के बाजारों को गुलजार कर दिया है तो एशिया की सबसे बड़ी झुग्गी बस्ती धारावी का कुंभारवाडा भी अंधेरे में क्यों रहता। इस बार वहां ग्राहकों का जमावड़ा तो है ही, मुंबई हवाई अड्डे को अपने हाथ से बनाए दीयों से जगमगाते देखने का उत्साह भी है। दीयों के निर्यात में पहले से ही अक्वल कुंभारवाडा को इस बार मुंबई इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड और अदाणी फाउंडेशन के लिए लाखों दीये बनाने का बड़ा ठेका मिला है और दीवाली पर हवाई अड्डे यहीं के दीयों से रोशन होगा।

कुंभारवाडा का नाम दीयों और मिट्टी के खूबसूरत सामान के लिए पहले ही देश-दुनिया में फैला हुआ है। इसी वजह से इसे पांटीरी विलेज का नाम भी मिला है। 1932 में गुजरात से विस्थापित होकर आए कुम्हार परिवारों ने धारावी में कुंभारवाडा बसाकर उसे दीयों का सबसे बड़ा बाजार बना दिया। 12.5 एकड़ में फैले इस इलाके में 1,000 से ज्यादा परिवार दीये, बर्तन और सजावटी सामान

## लाखों रुपये का होता है दीये का कारोबार

■ यहां हर कुम्हार परिवार साल भर में औसतन 1 लाख दीये बनाता है

■ इससे महीने में 15,000 से 20,000 रुपये उसे मिल जाते हैं

■ साल में यहां से 10-12 करोड़ दिए बिक जाते हैं, जिनमें से करीब 60 लाख दीये विदेश जाते हैं

■ यहां मिट्टी के सामान का सालाना कारोबार 1,000 करोड़ रुपये से पार जा चुका है

बनाते हैं। साल भर में यहां करीब 12 करोड़ दीये बनाए जाते हैं। साथ ही यहां मिट्टी से बर्तन बनाने के हुनर (पांटीरी) को तराशने की कार्यशाला भी है, जहां हजारों लोग यह कला सीखने आते हैं।

कुंभारवाडा में लगभग सभी लोग गुजराती मूल के हैं और मूल रूप से सौराष्ट्र से हैं। लेकिन अब ज्यादातर लोग मराठी ही बोलते हैं। बस्ती के चारों ओर झुगियां उगीं और खुले मैदान कंक्रीट के जंगल बन गए, जिससे मिट्टी के बर्तनों का व्यवसाय भी शकल बदलने लगा। मगर मांग और बिक्री कम नहीं हुई। कुंभारवाडा में चाक घुमाते नंदी परमार बताते

हैं कि उनके पुरखे मिट्टी खेतों से लाते थे मगर उन्हें राजकोट और भावनगर से मिट्टी मंगानी पड़ती है। दुलाई की लागत ज्यादा है मगर यह सब मेक इन इंडिया को साकार कर रहा है। कला के कद्रदानों की कमी नहीं है, इसलिए उनका कारोबार भी चमक रहा है।

कुंभारवाडा के दीयों को अब वैश्विक बाजार मिल गया है। पीढ़ियों से यहां काम कर रहे हसमुख भाई परमार बताते हैं कि कुंभारवाडा में बने दीये अमेरिका, दुबई और लंदन तक जाते हैं। थोड़ा माल पानी के जहाज से और थोड़ा हवाई जहाज से जाता है। कारोबारियों के मुताबिक सालाना 60-

70 लाख दीये विदेश जाते हैं। साथ ही मिट्टी के बर्तन और सजावटी सामान भी निर्यात किया जाता है। स्कूल-कॉलेज के छात्रों कारीगरी का हुनर सिखाने वाले नरोत्तम टांक बताते हैं कि उनके पास बने डिजाइनर दीये अमेरिका, ब्रिटेन, कनाडा और खाड़ी देशों तक जाते हैं। अब तो इनकी ऑनलाइन बिक्री भी होने लगी है।

इस साल दीवाली पर मुंबई हवाई अड्डे भी कुंभारवाडा के दीयों से ही जगमगाएगा। धारावी रीडेवलपमेंट प्रोजेक्ट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (डीआरपीपीएल) की पहल धारावी सोशल मिशन ने धारावी के कुंभारवाडा से करीब 10 लाख दीयों का ऑर्डर दिया है। इनका इस्तेमाल मुंबई इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड अपने यात्री जुड़ाव कार्यक्रम के लिए करेगा और अदाणी फाउंडेशन त्योहारों पर जागरूकता अभियान में इनका प्रयोग करेगा। इससे करीब 500 कारीगरों और उनके साथियों को फायदा हुआ है। कुंभारवाडा पांटीरी एसोसिएशन के सदस्य हनीफ गलवानी बताते हैं कि उनकी बस्ती को आज तक इससे बड़ा ऑर्डर नहीं मिला। इससे बिक्री के साथ विरासत आगे बढ़ाने में भी मदद मिलती है।

कुंभारवाडा पांच गलियों में बसा है, जहां 120 से ज्यादा भट्टियां हैं। घरों के बाहर और इर्दगिर्द दीये और मिट्टी के दूसरे उत्पाद फैले रहते हैं, भीतर कार्यशाला होती हैं और ऊपर की मंजिलों पर लोग रहते हैं। धारावी प्रजापति सहकारी उत्पादक संघ के अध्यक्ष कमलेश चित्रोदा बताते हैं कि यहां हर कुम्हार परिवार साल भर में औसतन 1 लाख दीये बनाता है। इससे महीने में 15,000 से 20,000 रुपये उसे मिल जाते हैं। साल में यहां से 10-12 करोड़ दीये बिक जाते हैं, जिनमें से करीब 60 लाख दीये विदेश जाते हैं। यहां मिट्टी के सामान का सालाना कारोबार 1,000 करोड़ रुपये से पार जा चुका है। इन दिनों दीवाली की खरीदारी के लिए गोवा, सोलापुर, नागपुर, नाशिक, सूरत और वडोदरा से बड़ी तादाद में व्यापारी यहां आ रहे हैं।

पांटीरी का प्रशिक्षण देने वाले यूसुफ गलवानी बताते हैं कि आर्किटेक्ट, इंटीरियर डेकोरेटर और पांटीरी कलाकार काम सीखने आ रहे हैं, जिनके लिए औसतन 7,000 रुपये महीने के शुल्क पर छह महीने की कक्षाएं चलाई जाती हैं। यहां पर्यावरण का ध्यान रखने के लिए जैव ईंधन से चलने वाली भट्टियां लगाई गई हैं। कुम्हार परिवारों में ज्यादातर पुरुष चाक चलाते हैं और महिलाएं मिट्टी का गोला बनाने से लेकर दीयों की सजावट तक कई तरह के काम करती हैं। एक औसत परिवार रोजाना 2 से 5 हजार तक दीये बना लेता है, जिसमें स्कूल-कॉलेज से लौटे बच्चे भी मदद करते हैं। भट्टी संभालना, दीये और बर्तन को गेरू से रंगना और चित्रकारी करना नई पीढ़ी का ही काम है।

# विंटर शेड्यूल आज से • 21 शहरों के लिए 63, छह इंटरनेशनल डेस्टिनेशंस के लिए 7 फ्लाइट ऑपरेट होंगी आज से पुणे, इंदौर और कुल्लू की नई फ्लाइट मिलेंगी

एविएशन रिपोर्टर | जयपुर

रविवार से जयपुर सहित देश-विदेश के सभी एयरपोर्ट्स पर फ्लाइट्स का विंटर शेड्यूल लागू हो जाएगा। इसके तहत जयपुर से मुंबई के लिए सर्वाधिक 10 फ्लाइट्स संचालित होंगी। वहीं दिल्ली, बेंगलुरु, कोलकाता के लिए रोजाना 6-6 फ्लाइट्स मिलेंगी।

दरअसल अभी जयपुर एयरपोर्ट से रोजाना औसतन 65 फ्लाइट संचालित होती हैं। विंटर शेड्यूल में यह संख्या 70 तक पहुंच जाएगी। विंटर शेड्यूल में जयपुर एयरपोर्ट से देश के 21 शहरों के लिए कुल 63 घरेलू फ्लाइट संचालित होंगी।



## विंटर शेड्यूल में होने वाला बदलाव एक नजर में

नंबर	कहां से कहां	फ्रीक्वेंसी	आगमन	कब से
IX-1955	जयपुर-पुणे	प्रतिदिन	रात 8:50	27 अक्टूबर
6E-7744	जयपुर-इंदौर	प्रतिदिन	सुबह 6:15	27 अक्टूबर
9I-805	जयपुर-कुल्लू	प्रतिदिन	सुबह 8:20	14 अक्टूबर

दो उड़ान आज से बंद	नंबर	आगमन
	9I-644	जयपुर-दिल्ली फ्लाइट रोज शाम 7 बजे जाती थी।
	6E-6142	जयपुर-बेंगलुरु रोज सुबह 10:05 जाती थी।

जबकि 6 विदेशी शहरों के लिए रोज 7 इंटरनेशनल फ्लाइट चलेंगी। विंटर शेड्यूल में कोलकाता, इंदौर, उदयपुर आदि शहरों के लिए फ्लाइट्स की फ्रीक्वेंसी बढ़ जाएगी। इसके अलावा विंटर शेड्यूल में जोधपुर से 9 शहरों के लिए 14 फ्लाइट्स और किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट से दिल्ली के लिए नई फ्लाइट शुरू होगी।

## मुंबई की सर्वाधिक 10 फ्लाइट

- जयपुर से मुंबई के लिए रोजाना सर्वाधिक 10 फ्लाइट।
- दिल्ली, बेंगलुरु और कोलकाता के लिए 6-6 फ्लाइट संचालित होंगी।
- अहमदाबाद और हैदराबाद के लिए रोज 5-5 फ्लाइट होंगी।
- पुणे, चंडीगढ़, इंदौर के लिए

रोज 3-3 फ्लाइट संचालित होंगी।

- चेन्नई, लखनऊ, उदयपुर, देहरादून के लिए रोज 2-2 फ्लाइट मिलेंगी।
- गोवा, सूरत, गुवाहाटी, जोधपुर, बीकानेर, भोपाल, बेलगाम, कुल्लू के लिए 1-1 फ्लाइट संचालित होगी।

## 2 फ्लाइट्स का समय बदला

- एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की फ्लाइट आईएक्स-1132 का समय बदला। यह शाम 5:25 बजे पुणे जाती है, जो अब दोपहर 12:50 बजे जाएगी।
- एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की गुवाहाटी की फ्लाइट आईएक्स-1603 का नंबर और समय बदलेगा। ये अब आईएक्स-1953 से शाम 5:05 की बजाय दोपहर 2:15 बजे जाएगी।

## अब 50 विमानों को बम की धमकी, दो का रूट बदला

नई दिल्ली, प्रेढ़ : भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों द्वारा संचालित कम-से-कम 50 विमानों को रविवार को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी मिली। उनमें से दो का मार्ग बदल दिया गया। 14 दिनों में 380 से अधिक उड़ानों को इस तरह की झूठी धमकियां मिली हैं। इसके चलते घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें प्रभावित हो रही हैं। ज्यादातर धमकियां इंटरनेट मीडिया के जरिये दी गईं।

अकासा एयर ने कहा कि उसकी 15 उड़ानों को सुरक्षा अलर्ट मिला और गहन निरीक्षण के बाद सभी विमानों को परिचालन के उपयुक्त पाया गया। इंडिगो की 18 और



● 14 दिनों में 380 से अधिक उड़ानों को मिली हैं झूठी धमकियां

विस्तारा की 17 उड़ानों को धमकी मिली। एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि धमकी के बाद इंडिगो की कम-से-कम दो उड़ानों का मार्ग बदल दिया गया। पुणे से जोधपुर की उड़ान को अहमदाबाद और कोझिकोड से दम्मम (सऊदी अरब) की उड़ान को मुंबई की ओर मोड़ दिया गया।

धमकी देने वालों पर प्रतिबंध के लिए कदम उठा रही सरकार >> पृष्ठ 14



# Corporate Communications Directorate

RS DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## 50 विमानों को बम की धमकी, दो का रूट बदला

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों द्वारा संचालित कम-से-कम 50 विमानों को रविवार को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी मिली। उनमें से दो का मार्ग बदल दिया गया। 14 दिनों में 380 से अधिक उड़ानों को इस तरह की झूठी धमकियां मिली हैं। इसके चलते घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें प्रभावित हो रही हैं। ज्यादातर धमकियां इंटरनेट मीडिया के जरिये दी गईं।

अकासा एयर ने कहा कि उसकी 15 उड़ानों को सुरक्षा अलर्ट मिला और गहन निरीक्षण के बाद सभी विमानों को परिचालन के उपयुक्त पाया गया। इंडिगो की 18 और विस्तार की 17 उड़ानों को धमकी मिली।

एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि धमकी के बाद इंडिगो की कम-से-कम दो उड़ानों का मार्ग बदल दिया गया। पुणे से जोधपुर की उड़ान को अहमदाबाद और

14 दिनों में अब तक 380 से अधिक उड़ानों को मिली हैं झूठी धमकियां



अपराधियों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कदम उठा रही सरकार : नायडू

कोझिकोड से दम्मम (सऊदी अरब) की उड़ान को मुंबई की ओर मोड़ दिया गया। पिछले 10 दिनों में यह चौथी बार है, जब जोधपुर हवाई अड्डे पर लैंड करने वाली फ्लाइट को बम से उड़ाने की धमकी मिली। फ्लाइट की अहमदाबाद में लैंडिंग कराई गई और सुरक्षा जांच के बाद धमकी फर्जी निकली।

इस बीच, नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के राममोहन नायडू ने विशाखापत्तनम में कहा कि केंद्र सरकार बम की झूठी धमकियां देने वाले अपराधियों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कदम उठा रही है। जो लोग इस तरह की गतिविधियों में शामिल हैं, उन्हें कड़ी सजा दी जाएगी और जुर्माना लगाया जाएगा। सरकार ऐसे लोगों को उड़ान भरने से रोकने के लिए भी कदम उठा रही है।

विशाखापत्तनम और विजयवाड़ा के बीच दो उड़ानों का उद्घाटन करने के बाद पत्रकारों से बातचीत करते हुए नायडू ने कहा कि इन फर्जी धमकियों को रोकने के लिए सरकार अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों, कानून प्रवर्तन शाखाओं और खुफिया ब्यूरो से सहायता ले रही है। इसके अलावा सरकार दो नागरिक उड्डयन कानूनों में संशोधन करने पर भी विचार कर रही है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

27 OCTOBER 2024

## इसलिए सुबह की उड़ान में आती है दिक्कत

कानपुर : पिछले वर्ष की तरह इस सर्दी के मौसम में भी एयरपोर्ट से सुबह की उड़ानें नहीं उड़ सकेंगी। आइएलएस (इंस्ट्रूमेंट लैंडिंग सिस्टम) के सहायक सिस्टम मानक के अनुरूप न होने से मौसम खराब या कोहरा होने पर उड़ान में दिक्कत आती है। आइएलएस के सहायक उपकरणों के दो तरह के मानक होते हैं। एक बिना पर्याप्त लाइट और दूसरा पर्याप्त लाइट की सुविधा। यहां पर बिना पर्याप्त लाइट का आइएलएस लगा है। इसमें 400 मीटर तक ही लाइट की व्यवस्था है। लाइट की व्यवस्था कम से कम नौ सौ मीटर होनी चाहिए। लखनऊ के अमौसी एयरपोर्ट पर केटेगरी वन का आइएलएस लगा है। यहां पर्याप्त लाइट का आइएलएस चाहिए, इसके लिए रनवे के आगे 675 गुणा 150 मीटर भूमि की जरूरत है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

27 OCTOBER 2024

## हैदराबाद की उड़ान अब दोपहर 12:40 से

उड़ानों का विंटर शेड्यूल रविवार से लागू, सर्दी में मौसम खराब होने से आती है दिक्कत

जागरण संवाददाता, कानपुर : उड़ानों के लिए विंटर शेड्यूल लागू कर दिया गया है। यह शेड्यूल रविवार (27 अक्टूबर) से 29 मार्च 2025 तक रहेगा। आइएलएस (इंस्ट्रूमेंट लैंडिंग सिस्टम) के सहायक सिस्टम मानक के अनुरूप न होने से खराब मौसम या कोहरा होने पर कम दृश्यता के

कारण उड़ान में दिक्कत के कारण यहां के एयरपोर्ट से सुबह की उड़ान में दिक्कत आती है। ऐसे में हैदराबाद की उड़ान का समय बदल गया है। बाकी उड़ानें दोपहर की हैं, इसलिए उनका समय पहले की तरह ही रहेगा। हैदराबाद की उड़ान सप्ताह में



चार दिन सोमवार, बुधवार, शुक्रवार और रविवार की है। बेंगलुरु की उड़ान सप्ताह में तीन दिन मंगलवार, गुरुवार और शनिवार की हैं। अभी हैदराबाद की उड़ान का समय सुबह 10:40 बजे का था। अब यह उड़ान यहां दोपहर 12:40 बजे आएगी। दोपहर

1:20 बजे यहां से हैदराबाद के लिए जाएगी। बेंगलुरु, दिल्ली की उड़ान पहले की तरह रहेगी। मुंबई की उड़ान का समय 2:50 बजे आने और 3:30 पर जाने का रहेगा। एयरपोर्ट निदेशक संजय कुमार ने बताया कि रविवार से नया शेड्यूल लागू हो जाएगा।

# Our Cost Supremacy Will Keep Us Ahead: IndiGo CEO Elbers

ET Q&A

Since Pieter Elbers moved into the corner

room at IndiGo two years ago, this is the second quarterly loss for the country's aviation market leader – after seven straight profitable quarters. The loss raises concerns whether the dream run of airlines in a higher-than-normal fare environment was over. Elbers, however, doesn't believe so. He tells Arindam Majumder that the airline's performance will improve significantly as cost pressures would come down and that the festive season will boost traffic. Edited excerpts:

## Is this the end of the super normal cycle for Indian airlines?

With the return of the stronger season and especially now with Diwali, we expect therefore the demand to grow up again.

We were also confronted with the highest number of aircraft grounding since it started two years ago. We now have turned the corner and for the first time in quite a long period we see the number of aircraft grounded coming down. Which means that our cost of mitigation will come down.

We expect the revenue and the growth of the market to continue to be there. But the costs of mitigation will also come down.

## The Air India-Vistara merger is near and the consolidation will heat up on peak routes. Will IndiGo be able to get a premium price because of the increase in competition?

The Indian market is any which way one of the most competitive markets and one of the most price sensitive markets in the world. The market will continue to stay competitive. Both airlines will eventually have to deal with their shareholders and make sure that they offer a price which is in line with their costs. Any airline which is offering prices below their cost levels either will be out of business or be dependent on additional funds. That's why IndiGo's cost leadership has enabled us to not only sustain but also thrive where others have had their share of difficulties.



## MARKET COMPETITION



The Indian market is any which way one of the most competitive markets and one of the most price sensitive markets in the world. The market will continue to stay competitive.

### PIETER ELBERS

CEO, IndiGo

## What has been the response to IndiGo's new premium cabin?

The reactions which we got and the feedback from the market is extremely positive. The product will be available on Delhi-Mumbai route and before the end of the year all flights between Delhi and Mumbai will be equipped with this. As the Indian economy continues to grow, as the Indian customers continue to evolve, this is really a product matching the aspirations of a lot of Indian travellers.

## The company has launched a new fund to invest in start-ups. What sort of companies are you interested in?

It would be great for us to collaborate or to co invest or to benefit from some of these start-ups and some of the new initiatives just outside IndiGo, but very close to the, the core of our business or the core of our ecosystem.

## ● What has happened so far?

INDIAN AIRLINES HAVE received over 250 bomb threats from anonymous social media accounts in the last two weeks. All the threats have turned out to be fake. This is an outrageous number, as in the past 10 years, the number of such calls has been only 120. The threat calls have been issued to Air India, Vistara, IndiGo, Akasa Air, Alliance Air, SpiceJet, and Star Air.

Such calls seem to originate from social media accounts specifically created for this purpose. Tracing their IP addresses has not amounted to much, as they have been found to be in Europe. This can possibly be due to VPNs, and the perpetrators might be operating from within the country itself. The motives can vary, from simple prank calls to intentional disruption of the airlines' operations. A 17-year-old from Chhattisgarh who posted 19 such threats, has admitted that he did so to implicate a person with whom he had a business dispute. On Saturday, Delhi Police arrested a young man who had allegedly posted two threats. The calls have led to widespread disruption in flight schedules, causing huge financial losses to airlines and inconvenience to passengers and crew members.



FEAR IN THE SKIES

# Why there's no end to airline bomb hoaxes

Hoax bomb calls via social media have been disrupting flights for almost two weeks now, and law enforcement agencies haven't been able to nab all the culprits yet. **Anwitii Rai** takes a look at how these hoaxes have affected the aviation industry and what the government is doing to stop this

250-plus

FLIGHTS, INCLUDING CARRIERS FLYING ON INTERNATIONAL ROUTES, HAVE BEEN AFFECTED

NO SPECIFIC LAW PERTAINING TO HOAX BOMB CALLS EXISTS IN INDIA CURRENTLY

₹600 cr

AND COUNTING, ESTIMATED REVENUE LOSS OF AFFECTED AIRLINES DUE TO BOMB HOAX THREATS

## ● Protocol for handling such threats

WHEN A BOMB threat is received, there are two scenarios. If the flight is yet to take off, the plane is moved to a secured bay and checked thoroughly. The passengers' baggage is also screened. If received mid-air, the airport-specific Bomb Threat Assessment Committee (BTAC) receives an alert. The BTAC comprises representatives of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), the airline concerned, and the airport operator. The BTACs of the departure and destination airports together determine the legitimacy and severity of the threat. If within the domestic airspace, the aircraft is asked to land at the nearest airport if the threat is deemed "specific" and then is checked by airport security staff after the crew and passengers are evacuated. If the aircraft has left the Indian airspace, Air Traffic Control gets in contact with its foreign counterparts to determine the course of action.

## ● Action taken by the government

THE GOVERNMENT HAS told X, Meta, Google and Twitter to promptly share details about the user accounts that post these messages. "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," it said in an advisory on Saturday, and warned they could lose immunity from prosecution for content posted by users, granted under the Information Technology Act, on failure to remove such false warnings. They will also be liable for consequential action under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023 on failure to observe the due diligence obligations.

Meanwhile, the directors of the CSIF and the BCAS have briefed the Union home secretary and discussed ways to tackle the situation on the ground. Per a PTI report, the BTAC protocol on threat classification has been tweaked and a "fine assessment, acting on a set of new 'red flags', is being undertaken now."

## ● Changes in law, harsher penalties for hoaxers in the works

THE GOVERNMENT IS also planning to tweak the existing laws to deal with bomb hoaxes to airlines and ensure harsher punishments to deter such calls. Among the moves in the works are changes to the Aircraft Security Rules and amendments to the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against Safety of Civil Aviation (SUASCA) Act, 1982. This would enable inclusion of those behind hoax bomb threats to the no-fly list, which is

maintained only for unruly passengers as of now. The ministry of civil aviation (MoCA) wants the law's ambit to be expanded in order to deal with bomb threats even when an aircraft is on ground and not operating a flight, and make it a cognisable offence under the Act. The inter-ministerial consultations will be underway soon as MoCA wants the amendments to take effect at the earliest.

## ● How do such threats affect the airlines?

MORE THAN 150 million domestic passengers were served by the Indian aviation industry last year. Such a sheer number, along with industry guidelines, means that every threat must be taken seriously by the airlines. Doing so does not only mean grounding the flight

and evacuating the passengers, but also coordinating with security crew and the airports nearest to the aircraft at the time the threat is received. This, along with the cost of grounding the aircraft, rescheduling flights, dumping aviation fuel mid-air to reduce the load as

aeroplanes return to the airport, changing the cabin crew, passenger accommodation, and other such aspects can cause significant financial losses to the airlines. As per reports, the latest disruptions have already cost Indian airlines over ₹600 crore.





# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## विमानों के साथ होटलों को भी बम से उड़ाने की धमकी

नई दिल्ली/लखनऊ, वि.सं./एजेंसी। विमानों के साथ-साथ अब होटलों को भी बम से उड़ाने की धमकी भेजी जा रही है। रविवार को 50 से अधिक विमानों को बम की धमकी दी गई। इसके बाद विमानों को सुरक्षा जांच पूरी होने के बाद उड़ान भरने की इजाजत दी गई। इंडिगो के दो विमानों का मार्ग परिवर्तित करना पड़ा। ऐसे में यात्रियों को भारी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। गत 14 दिनों में 350 से अधिक उड़ानों को धमकी मिली है।

इधर, लखनऊ के नौ और तिरुपति के छह होटल को ई-मेल से बम की धमकी दी गई। लखनऊ के होटलों को ई-मेल में चेतावनी दी गई कि होटल परिसर में काले बैग में बम छिपाए गए हैं। 55,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर की मांग पूरी नहीं की तो बम विस्फोट कर देंगे।

- लखनऊ, तिरुपति व सूरत के होटल को ई-मेल भेजा
- 50 और विमानों को बम से उड़ाने की चेतावनी मिली

वहीं, आकासा एयर ने कहा, उसकी 15 उड़ानों को अलर्ट मिले। बेंगलुरु से गोरखपुर और बेंगलुरु से अयोध्या आ रहे विमान में बम की सूचना से हड़कंप मच गया। इंडिगो की 18 उड़ानों और विस्तारा की 17 उड़ानों के लिए धमकियां मिलीं। केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के राममोहन नायडू ने कहा, धमकियां रोकने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों और खुफिया ब्यूरो से सहायता के अलावा सरकार कानूनों में संशोधन पर विचार कर रही है। संलिप्तों को कड़ी सजा और उड़ान से रोका जाएगा।

➤ हड़कंप मचा PoB



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## गोरखपुर आ रहे विमान में बम की सूचना से दहशत

गोरखपुर, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। बेंगलुरु से गोरखपुर आने वाली अकासा एयर की फ्लाइट में बम होने की सूचना से रविवार को हड़कंप मच गया।

गोरखपुर एयरपोर्ट पर लैंडिंग होते ही यात्रियों को बाहर निकालकर उनके सामान और विमान की चेकिंग की गई। दो घंटे तक चली जांच में कोई संदिग्ध वस्तु नहीं मिली। इस विमान को छोड़कर कोई उड़ान भी प्रभावित नहीं हुई। लेकिन विमान में सवार 177 यात्री दो घंटे तक एयरपोर्ट पर फंसे रहे। तीन दिन के भीतर गोरखपुर की फ्लाइट में बम की अफवाह की यह दूसरी घटना है। विमान को रविवार दोपहर 1:30 बजे गोरखपुर एयरपोर्ट पर लैंड होना था। इसके पहले 1:05 बजे ही एक्स पर एक सूचना आई कि विमान में बम है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## जल्द विमान लैंडिंग की बात सुनकर घबरा गए यात्री

अयोध्या, संवाददाता। 12 दिन के बाद अंदर अयोध्या आने वाली फ्लाइट में दूसरी बार बम होने की सूचना से एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन में खलबली मच गई। रविवार को बेंगलुरु से अयोध्या आ रही अकासा एयरलाइंस के विमान में बम होने की सूचना थी। दोपहर 1.49 मिनट पर महर्षि वाल्मीकि अंतरराष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट अयोध्या पर लैंड करने के बाद सभी यात्रियों को सुरक्षित उतारा गया। इसके बाद यात्रियों और उनके सामानों की जांच की गई।

सुलतानपुर के रहने वाले प्रांजल अग्रवाल ने बताया कि पैसेंजर को लैंडिंग से 40 मिनट पहले बताया गया कि कोई सिक््योरिटी श्रेट है इसलिए फ्लाइट जल्दी लैंडिंग करनी पड़ेगी क्योंकि अयोध्या पास है इसलिए अयोध्या में ही लैंड करेंगे। यात्रियों में

- बेंगलुरु से अयोध्या आ रही फ्लाइट में बम की सूचना से खलबली
- अकासा एयरलाइंस के विमान में बम की सूचना यात्रियों को सुरक्षित उतारा

घबराहट तो थी लेकिन कोई पैनिक नहीं हुआ।

सभी तरह की चेकिंग के बाद भी हमें रोके रखा गया जब सभी लोगों के सामान मिल गए तो उन लोगों को एयरपोर्ट से बाहर जाने दिया गया। बस्ती के रहने वाले शफक आलम ने बताया कि फ्लाइट में करीब एक घंटे पहले सूचना मिली कि सुरक्षा अलर्ट हैं लेकिन 30 मिनट में सब कुछ सामान्य हो गया। कोई यात्री परेशान नहीं हुआ।



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

### SPAIN PRESIDENT SANCHEZ SET TO LAUNCH PRIVATE AIRCRAFT FACILITY

#### HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** An assembly plant for Airbus C295 aircraft in Vadodara, a flagship "Make in India" initiative in aviation, will be inaugurated on Monday by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Spanish President Pedro Sanchez, whose visit to India is aimed at bolstering bilateral ties.

Sanchez is the first Spanish president to visit India in 18 years, and the two leaders are set to hold talks to review bilateral relations during his three-day trip. Sanchez will also visit Mumbai to interact with trade and industry leaders and think tanks, the external affairs ministry said.

Several agreements are expected to be signed during the visit to give a fillip to bilateral cooperation, the ministry said. Sanchez will address the Spain India Forum and visit film studios to interact with celebrities with the aim of fostering collaboration between the Indian and Spanish media and entertainment industries.

Two-way trade was worth \$9.9 billion in 2023, with India exporting goods worth \$7.17 billion and importing merchandise valued at \$2.74 billion. Spain is the 16th largest investor in India, with cumulative investments of \$4.2 billion during 2000-2024. More than 230 Spanish companies are active in India.

Spain is home to an Indian diaspora of 75,000, most of them

continued on →17



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

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{ **BOMB THREATS ON FLIGHTS** } AVIATION MINISTER

# 'Taking steps to ban perpetrators from flying'

### HT Correspondents

letters@hindustantimes.com

**HYDERABAD/LUCKNOW:** The Union government is planning steps to ban those involved in issuing bomb threats to flights and airlines from flying, civil aviation minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on Sunday, a day when a similar threat was reported on an Akasa Air flight, enroute from Bengaluru to Delhi via Gor-

akhpur in Uttar Pradesh.

The remarks come amid a large number of hoax bomb threats being reported over the last two weeks. According to officials, at least 350 flights operated by Indian airlines have received such threats, mostly through social media, in the last two weeks— 50 of these on Sunday, according to media reports.

Naidu, who was talking to reporters after inaugurating two

flights connecting Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada (both in Andhra Pradesh), also said besides taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats, the Centre is also mulling to amend two civil aviation laws.

"Those who resort to these kinds of activities will be punished severely and imposed a

penalty. We are also taking steps to ban such persons from flying. We will announce them in the coming days," Naidu, a leader of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), said in Visakhapatnam.

"We are also taking the support of international agencies, law enforcement agencies, the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these. We are planning to bring changes to two civil aviation laws."



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDU

CHENNAI

27 OCTOBER 2024

## GENEVA

### Three aid workers injured, dozens held at north Gaza hospital: WHO



AFP

▲ The WHO said it regained contact with staff at a besieged northern Gaza hospital, finding that three health workers had been injured and 44 detained. Kamal Adwan, northern Gaza's last functioning hospital, "is still under siege, but we managed to get in touch with the staff", WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said. AFP

# 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



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## At least 50 flights receive hoax bomb threats, 2 diverted

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

AT LEAST 50 flights operated by Indian airlines received bomb threats and two of them were diverted on Sunday, according to sources.

In 14 days, more than 350 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

Akasa Air on Sunday said 15 of its flights got security alerts and after thorough inspections, all aircraft were released for operations. The sources in the know said IndiGo received threats for 18 flights and Vistara for 17 flights.

At least two IndiGo flights were diverted following threats. Its flight 6E 133 (Pune to Jodhpur) was diverted to Ahmedabad and 6E 87 (Kozhikode to Dammam) was diverted to Mumbai, an official said.

Union Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on Sunday said the Centre is mulling steps to ban perpetrators, who resort to hoax bomb threats, from flying.

The minister also said besides taking support from interna-

### HOTELS IN LUCKNOW GET BOMB THREATS

Lucknow: At least 10 major hotels in Lucknow received bomb threats via email on Sunday. The Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) did not find anything suspicious, officials said. "The issue has been taken up with the cyber crime unit. BDDS unit checking was done in three hotels, nothing suspicious was found." A senior official of the UP government said.

**PTI**

tional agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats, the union government is also mulling to amend two Civil Aviation Laws.

Against the backdrop of a spate of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## At least 50 flights receive bomb threats on Sunday; 2 diverted

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Union civil aviation minister K. Rammoan Naidu on Sunday said the Centre is mulling steps to ban perpetrators, who resort to hoax bomb threats, from flying. He also said besides taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats, the union government is also mulling to amend two Civil Aviation Laws. **PTI**



Over 350 flights have received hoax bomb threats in 14 days. **BLOOMBERG**



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## At least 50 flights receive bomb threats; 2 diverted on Sunday

MPOST BUREAU

**NEW DELHI:** According to sources, at least 50 flights operated by Indian airlines received bomb threats and two of them were diverted on Sunday.

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(Pune to Jodhpur) was diverted to Ahmedabad and 6E 87 (Kozhikode to Dammam) was diverted to Mumbai, an official said. **Continued on P4**

## From Page 1

## At least 50 flights receive...

According to an IndiGo statement, the flights that received security-related alerts include 6E 11 (Delhi-Istanbul), 6E 92 (Jeddah-Mumbai), 6E 112 (Goa-Ahmedabad), 6E 125 (Bengaluru-Jharsuguda), 6E 127 (Amritsar-Ahmedabad) and 6E 135 (Kolkata-Pune).

Among others are 6E 149 (Hyderabad to Bagdogra), 6E 173 (Delhi to Bengaluru), 6E 175 (Bengaluru to Delhi), 6E 197 (Raipur to Hyderabad), 6E 248 (Mumbai to Kolkata), 6E 277 (Ahmedabad-Lucknow), 6E 312 (Bengaluru to Kolkata), 6E 235 (Kolkata-Bengaluru) and 6E 74 (Riyadh-Mumbai).

Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu on Sunday said the

Centre is mulling steps to ban perpetrators, who resort to hoax bomb threats, from flying.

The minister also said besides taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats, the union government is also mulling to amend two Civil Aviation Laws.

Against the backdrop of a spate of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## Nepal suspends permit of Thai AirAsia for unauthorised landing

**KATHMANDU:** The Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) has taken action against Thai AirAsia airbus for entering into the Nepali airspace without permission.

The Thai AirAsia Airbus, en route to Kathmandu from Thailand, was held in Nepali airspace for about an hour before receiving clearance to land at Tribhuvan International Airport on Sunday, according to airport officials.

According to CAAN spokesman Gyanendra Bhul, the flight of Thai AirAsia has been suspended for the time being and the General Sales Agent of the airlines in Nepal has also been cancelled.

Spokesman Bhul further said that the Thai AirAsia airbus was allowed to land at TIA under a 'special chartered' flight permit as its regular permit expired on October 26.

AGENCIES

## HOAX BOMB THREATS

Govt issues advisory to social media platforms to remove misinformation



### OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Amid a spate of hoax bomb threats to multiple airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules.

The Centre also asserted that apart from removing or disabling access to such misinformation, social media intermediaries have additional liability under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS) to mandatorily report certain offences perceived to be committed by any user of their platform including those with intent to threaten unity, integrity, sovereignty or security of India.

The Government, in an advisory, reminded social media intermediaries that they are obligated under IT rules to provide information under their control or possession and assist investigative agencies within stipulated timeline of up to 72 hours.

The move assumes significance as more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats in the past 12 days. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

**The move assumes significance as more than 275 flights operated by the Indian carriers have received hoax bomb threats in the past 12 days**

Continued on P4

## Govt issues advisory to social media platforms to remove...

*Continued from Page 1*  
**O**n Friday alone, over 25 domestic and international flights operated by Indian carriers received bomb threats.

"In addition to the above, the IT Rules, 2021 obligates the intermediaries to provide information under its control or possession, or assistance to the Government agency which is lawfully authorised for investigative or protective or cyber security activities, for the purposes of verification of identity, or for the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution, of offences under any law for the time being in force, or for cyber security incidents, well within the stipulated timeframes (as soon as possible but not later than 72 hours)," the advisory issued by IT Ministry said.

The advisory said that considering the "serious nature of the situation", the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology "reminds with emphasis" that all the intermediaries including social media intermediaries must make reasonable efforts to disallow such malicious acts including hoax bomb threats from being disseminated on their platforms.

The intermediaries including social media intermediaries must observe their due diligence obligations that include the 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.

Government said 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 (IT Rules, 2021) to promptly remove such misinformation that affects public order and security of the state.

"As part of such due diligence obligations, it is the responsibility of concerned intermediaries including social media intermediaries to promptly take necessary action under the IT Rules, 2021 by not allowing any user to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, store, update or share any unlawful or false information.

"Further, the exemption from liability for any third party 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 IT Ministry said.

In case of failure of the intermediaries to observe the due diligence obligations as provided in the IT Rules, 2021, the provision of section 79 of the IT Act shall not be applicable to such intermediary and

they shall be liable for consequential action as provided under any law including the IT Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023.

"As reported in the news, multiple hoax bomb threats have been received by various airlines operating in India through various means including social media intermediaries during last few days. Airline travellers and security agencies are being affected due to such hoax bomb threats that disrupt the normal course of operations of the Airlines," it said.

The instances of malicious acts in the form of hoax bomb threats to such airlines lead to potential threat to the public order and security of the state, it said adding such hoax bomb threats while affecting a large number of citizens also destabilises the economic security of the country.

"Further, 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/ reposting/ re-tweeting' on social media platforms. Such hoax bomb threats are mostly misinformation that is massively disrupting the public order, operations of airlines and security of the airline travellers," it noted.

Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on Friday had assured the government is committed to taking strict action against those behind hoax bomb threats.

WITH AGENCY INPUTS



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## Flights, Tirupati shrine, many hotels get bomb threats

UJWAL JALALI, NAMITA  
BAJPAL & D SURENDRA KUMAR  
@ New Delhi/Lucknow/Tirupati

THE hoax bomb threat menace continued for the aviation industry on Sunday as more than 50 flights received calls, keeping security agencies on their toes. The Sri Varadaraja Swamy temple in Tirupati and a couple of hotels there, as also over a dozen prominent hotels in Lucknow received similar threats.

Flights which received hoax bomb threats included 18 of IndiGo airlines, 17 of Vistara and

15 of Akasa. Most of the threats were issued through social media posts.

While this is the first time a bomb threat was sent to a temple in Tirupati, at least half a dozen hotels in the temple city received hoax bomb threats over the past three days. The Alipiri police received a mail regarding the bomb threat at the TTD-run temple.

Bomb disposal teams and sniffer dogs were deployed at Hotel Renest and Pai Viceroy, situated near the Kapila Teertham circle, as well as the Sri



Tirupati police conducting searches at a hotel after a bomb threat | EXPRESS

Varadaraja Swamy temple. The e-mail threats again mentioned the alleged drug kingpin Jaffer Sadiq and the ISI.

In Vijayawada, Hotel Taj Vivanta received a bomb threat. Inspector S S S V Nagaraju said extensive searches at the hotel revealed it was a hoax threat.

Panic gripped Lucknow after nine prominent hotels received bomb threats demanding a ransom of ₹50 lakh on Sunday. The email, sent around 8.03 am, claimed that explosive devices had been planted in black bags across all the hotel premises. The sender warned that any attempt to defuse them would lead to mass casualties, prompting an emergency response.

The Lucknow police roped in the Cyber Cell to trace the origin of the email, while bomb disposal and dog squads were deployed to begin large-scale evacuations.

The hotels mentioned in the threatening email are situated in tony areas of Lucknow, including Gomti Nagar, Hazratganj, Sarojininagar, Alambagh and Krishnanagar. The mail from Adam Lanza Sandyhook-childkilling@outlook.com had 'Bombs in the HOTEL' in the subject line. It was sent to the nine hotels at 8.03 am.

## 350 से अधिक बम की धमकियां, केवल दो गिरफ्तार

पायनियर समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली

देश भर के व्यापक विमानों और महत्वपूर्ण होटलों को निशाना बनाकर लगातार बम धमकियों से काफ़ी वित्तीय नुकसान के साथ आम जनता को देरी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। इसी कड़ी में रविवार को भी अकासा एयर, इंडिगो और विस्तारा को कम से कम 50 विमानों को फो बम रखे जाने या उनमें विस्फोट करने की धमकियां मिली हैं। इस बीच, कुल 35 होटलों और एक मंदिर को भी बम की धमकी वाले संदेश मिले, जिनमें लखनऊ के 10 महत्वपूर्ण होटल, राजकोट के 10 होटल, कोलकाता के 10 और तिरुपति के कई होटल और एक मंदिर शामिल हैं। पिछले 14 दिनों में अब तक 350 से ज्यादा फ्लाइट को बम धमकियां मिली हैं। मामले में अब तक केवल दो लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है।

कुछ मामलों में, धमकियां उन फ्लाइट को दी गईं जो पहले ही दिन के लिए संचालित हो चुकी थीं या जिनका संचालन निर्धारित नहीं था।



जाइल विज

इसके अलावा, चार राज्यों-पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, गुजरात और आंध्र प्रदेश के दर्जनों महत्वपूर्ण होटलों को भी पिछले तीन दिनों में धमकी भरे संदेश मिले हैं, जिसके बाद सुरक्षा एजेंसियों ने सख्त तलाशी अभियान चलाने के साथ सुरक्षा व्यवस्था चाक चौबंद की है। इनमें से अधिकांश धमकियां सोशल मीडिया के ज़रिए दी गईं।

एयरलाइनों को फर्जी धमकियों

के बढ़ते चलन को देखते हुए, सरकार इन फर्जी धमकियों को रोकने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों, कानून व्यवस्था संचालित करने वाली इकाइयों के साथ खुफिया ब्यूरो को मदद ले रही है। खुफिया सूत्रों ने बताया कि त्यौहारी सौजन के दौरान विमानन सेक्टर और होटल व अन्य सेवा क्षेत्रों के ज़रिए अर्थव्यवस्था को नुकसान पहुंचाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। इस बीच, इन फर्जी कॉल संदेशों के

कारण एयरलाइंस और यात्री अनिश्चितता की स्थिति में हैं। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, इंडिगो को 18 और विस्तारा को 17 उड़ानों के लिए धमकियां मिली हैं। अकासा एयर को 15 उड़ानों के लिए धमकियां मिली हैं। धमकियों के बाद इंडिगो को कम से कम दो उड़ानों को डायवर्ट किया गया। इसकी फ्लाइट 6ई 133 (पुणे से जोधपुर) को अहमदाबाद और 6ई 87 (कोझिकोड से दम्मम) को मुंबई

डायवर्ट किया गया। इंडिगो के बयान के अनुसार, जिन उड़ानों को सुरक्षा संबंधी अलर्ट प्राप्त हुए हैं उनमें 6ई 11 (दिल्ली-इस्तांबुल), 6ई 92 (जेद्दा-मुंबई), 6ई 112 (गोवा-अहमदाबाद) समेत कई विमान हैं।

अकासा एयर ने एक बयान जारी कर पुष्टि की कि उसको आपातकालीन प्रतिक्रिया टीम सक्रिय रूप से स्थिति की निगरानी कर रही है और सुरक्षा और नियामक अधिकारियों के संपर्क में है। एक्स पर पोस्ट किए गए अकासा एयर के बयान में कहा गया है, हम स्थानीय अधिकारियों के साथ समन्वय में सभी सुरक्षा प्रक्रियाओं का पालन कर रहे हैं और मौके पर अकासा एयर की टीम यात्रियों की सुरक्षा और आराम सुनिश्चित करने में सहायता के लिए तैयार हैं। इन धमकियों ने त्यौहारी सौजन के बीच हवाई यात्रियों में दहशत पैदा कर दी है। अकासा एयर के मुताबिक, रविवार को बंगलुरु से गोरखपुर होते हुए दिल्ली जाने वाली फ्लाइट में बम की धमकी की सूचना मिली थी, जो जांच के बाद फर्जी निकली। (शेष पृष्ठ 9)

### 350 से अधिक...

गोरखपुर एयरपोर्ट के निदेशक आरके पाराशर ने कहा कि गोरखपुर एयरपोर्ट पर गहन जांच के दौरान कोई सांदिग्ध वस्तु नहीं मिली। फ्लाइट दोपहर 1.33 बजे गोरखपुर उतरी और 1.50 बजे दरवाजा खुला। विमान में 174 यात्री और तीन शिशु सवार थे। विमान के आगमन से पहले, हवाई अड्डे पर कड़ी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था देखी गई, जिसमें पुलिस, भारतीय वायु सेना, बम निरोधक दस्ता, दमकल विभाग और चिकित्सा दल मौके पर पहुंचे। उन्होंने बताया कि वरिष्ठ अधिकारी भी स्थिति को संभालने के लिए मौके पर पहुंचे। यात्रियों को सुरक्षित बाहर निकाला गया और विमान की गहन जांच की गई, जिसमें कोई सांदिग्ध वस्तु नहीं मिली। विमान के पूरी तरह से साफ होने के बाद, विमान ने दिल्ली के लिए अपनी यात्रा जारी रखी। विशाखापत्तनम-विजयवाड़ा के बीच दो उड़ानों का औपचारिक उद्घाटन

करने के बाद एक सवाल के जवाब में, केंद्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के राममोहन नायडू ने रविवार को कहा कि सरकार इन फर्जी धमकियों को रोकने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों, कानून प्रवर्तन शाखाओं और खुफिया ब्यूरो से सहायता ले रही है। उन्होंने कहा, जांच जारी है। इस बीच, कुल 35 होटलों और एक मंदिर को भी बम की धमकी वाले संदेश मिले, जिनमें लखनऊ के 10 महत्वपूर्ण होटल, राजकोट के 10 होटल, कोलकाता के 10 और तिरुपति के कई होटल और एक मंदिर शामिल हैं। ये फर्जी धमकियां पिछले तीन दिनों में दी गईं हैं। एक होटल को भेजे गए ईमेल में धमकी दी गई थी कि अगर 55,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर (4,624,288 रुपये) की फिरीती की मांग पूरी नहीं की गई तो विस्फोट हो जाएगा। धमकी भरे ईमेल में लिखा था, आपके होटल के परिसर में काले बैग में बम छिपाए गए हैं। मुझे 55,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर चाहिए, नहीं तो मैं विस्फोटकों को विस्फोट कर दूंगा और हर जगह खून फैल जाएगा। बमों को निष्क्रिय करने का कोई भी प्रयास उन्हें विस्फोटित कर देगा। एयरलाइनों को बम की झूठी धमकियों की पृष्ठभूमि में, आईटी मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म को उचित परिश्रम दायित्वों का पालन करने और आईटी नियमों के तहत निर्धारित सख्त समयसीमा

के भीतर गलत सूचनाओं तक पहुंच को तुरंत हटाने या अक्षम करने के लिए कहा है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

## Over 350 hoax bomb threat calls, only two arrests?

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

Hoax bomb callers have continued to target commercial flights and premium hotels across the country, causing significant financial losses and delays. At least 50 flights belonging to Akasa Air, IndiGo, and Vistara received bomb threats on Sunday. So far, more than 350 flights have received hoax bomb threats in the last 14 days.

In some cases, the threats were issued to flights that had already been operated for the day or were not scheduled to operate. Besides, dozens of premium hotels in four states—West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh have also received threat messages in the past three days, prompting the security agencies to launch search operations. Most of the threats were issued through social media.

In the backdrop of worrying trends of hoax threat messages to airlines, the government is taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence



procedures in coordination with local authorities, and the Akasa Air teams on ground are prepared to assist passengers to ensure their safety and comfort," read Akasa Air's statement posted on X. This has created a panic among air passengers amid the ongoing festive season.

According to Akasa Air, on Sunday, a bomb threat was reported on a flight enroute from Bengaluru to Delhi via Gorakhpur, which was found to be a hoax after inspection.

During a thorough inspection at the Gorakhpur airport, no suspicious item was found, Gorakhpur Airport director RK Parasher said. The flight landed in Gorakhpur at 1.33 pm and the door opened at 1.50 pm. The aircraft was carrying 174 passengers and three infants. The inspection of the aircraft and the passengers continued till 2.42 pm and the flight took off at 3.43 pm for Delhi, Parasher said.

Ahead of the plane's arrival, the airport saw a high-security response, with police, Indian Air Force, Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad, fire brigade, and medical teams arriving on the site.

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## Over 350 hoax bomb threat calls, only two arrests?

From page 1

Senior officials also rushed to the scene to manage the situation, he said. Passengers were safely evacuated, and a thorough inspection of the aircraft was conducted, revealing no suspicious items. Following the all-clear, the flight continued its journey to Delhi.

Responding to a query after formally inaugurating two flights—Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada, Union Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu on

Sunday said the government is taking support from international agencies, law enforcement wings and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these fake threats. "The investigation is going on," he added.

Meanwhile, a total 35 hotels and a temple also received bomb threat messages, these include 10 premium hotels in Lucknow, 10 hotels in Rajkot, 10 in Kolkata and several hotels and a temple in Tirupati. These hoax threats were made in the past three days.

An email sent to a hotel

threatened that explosions would take place if a ransom demand of USD 55,000 (Rs 4,624,288) was not met. "Bombs are hidden in black bags on the grounds of your hotel. I want USD 55,000, or I will detonate the explosives and blood will spill everywhere. Any attempt at defusing the bombs will detonate them," read the threat email.

Against the backdrop of a spate of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and

promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules. Meanwhile, the civil aviation ministry is looking to take legislative actions to tackle the menace of the hoax bomb threats to airlines.

On Saturday, Delhi police had arrested a 25-year-old unemployed man for making hoax bomb threats, marking only the second arrest since a spate of such threats began being issued to airlines last week. According to police, the

man admitted to making the threats to draw attention to himself after seeing reports of similar calls on television.

A case was registered and investigations revealed that the account belonged to Shubham Upadhyay from Rajapuri in west Delhi's Uttam Nagar area. Upadhyay was arrested and, on being questioned, revealed that he had made the threats to garner attention after seeing reports of similar calls on TV.

On October 16, the Mumbai

Police had taken a 17-year-old school dropout from Rajnandgaon in

Chhattisgarh into custody for threats made to four flights on October 14. After a dispute with a friend over money, the teenager had allegedly created an X handle in his name and made threats to frame him. Of the four flights to which the boy had issued the threats, two were delayed—including Air India flight AI 119 from Mumbai to New York, which was diverted to New Delhi—and one had to be cancelled.

Bureau to prevent these fake threats. Intelligence sources said there is an attempt to hit the economy via the aviation sector and the hospitality sector during the festive season. Meanwhile, airlines and passengers remain in a state of uncertainty due to these hoax call messages. According to sources, IndiGo received threats for 18 flights and Vistara for 17 flights. Akasa Air received threats for 15 flights.

At least two IndiGo flights were diverted

following threats. Its flight 6E 133 (Pune to Jodhpur) was diverted to Ahmedabad and 6E 87 (Kozhikode to Dammam) was diverted to Mumbai. According to an IndiGo statement, the flights that received security-related alerts include 6E 11 (Delhi-Istanbul), 6E 92 (Jeddah-Mumbai), 6E 112 (Goa-Ahmedabad), 6E 125 (Bengaluru-Jharsuguda), 6E 127 (Amritsar-Ahmedabad) and 6E 135 (Kolkata-Pune). Among others flights targeted were 6E 149 (Hyderabad to

Bagdogra), 6E 173 (Delhi to Bengaluru), 6E 175 (Bengaluru to Delhi), 6E 197 (Raipur to Hyderabad), 6E 248 (Mumbai to Kolkata), 6E 277 (Ahmedabad-Lucknow), 6E 312 (Bengaluru to Kolkata), 6E 235 (Kolkata-Bengaluru) and 6E 74 (Riyadh-Mumbai). Akasa Air issued a statement, confirming in a brief that its Emergency Response Team is actively monitoring the situation and is in contact with security and regulatory authorities. "We are following all safety and security



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

28 OCTOBER 2024

# Bomb threats hit 50 flights; govt seeks help of int'l agencies, IB

## IndiGo Gets Calls For 18 Flights; Vistara, Akasa Targeted Too

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi/Panaji:** The deluge of anonymous online hoax threats causing turbulence in airline operations since mid-Oct continued Sunday, affecting over 50 flights operated by various carriers amid futile attempts by the govt to get social media platforms to filter such messages.

IndiGo alone received “security-related alerts” for 18 flights through the day, of which two — Pune-Jodhpur (6E 133) and Kozhikode-Dammam (6E 87) — had to be diverted to Ahmedabad and Mumbai, respectively. Vistara and Akasa were among the other airlines whose schedule was disrupted by the mandatory requirement of putting their aircraft through protocol checks. In the past 14 days, 350-odd flights have been caught in the may-



**TURBULENT TIMES**

hem of hoax messages, resulting in thousands of passengers being delayed and the airlines suffering financial losses running into hundreds of crores of rupees.

A Goa-Vadodara flight was diverted to Surat late Sunday evening after a bomb threat minutes before it was to land at its destination. The alert came hours before PM Narendra Modi’s scheduled visit to Vadodara on Monday. As of 9.30pm Sunday, the flight was grounded at

Surat as checks continued.

Govt has asked social media intermediaries like X and Meta to curb the misinformation and warned them of strict action if they failed to do so. “We are also taking the support of international agencies, law enforcement agencies, the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these. We are planning to bring changes to two civil aviation laws. Those who resort to these kinds of activities will be punished severely and imposed a penalty,” aviation minister Ramohan Naidu said. Airlines and passengers are in a quandary over the string of threats. “Safety and security of our customers and crew remain our highest priority. We regret any inconvenience caused to our customers and appreciate their understanding during this time,” IndiGo said.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

AHMEDABAD

27 OCTOBER 2024

## Curb bomb hoaxes to airlines or face action: Govt to social media cos

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**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, nearly 400 flights operated by Indian carriers have received threat messages through social media and emails, disrupting schedules, causing flight diversions, and inflicting financial losses on airlines. Some international flights operated by foreign carriers were also affected.

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

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



THREATS TO 400 FLIGHTS SO FAR

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 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 under 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.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

27 OCTOBER 2024

## IndiGo flight from Jaipur takes off immediately after touch down

Venkadesan S@timesofindia.com

**Chennai:** Around 160 passengers onboard an IndiGo flight from Jaipur on Saturday were puzzled as the flight took off soon after touching down at Chennai airport. Airport authorities said the plane took longer to touch down - long float - due to crosswinds. All passengers were safe, officials confirmed.

The pilot, realising the flight might not have enough runway space to slow down, took off immediately. The flight (6E265) from Jaipur usually reaches Chennai at 1.05 pm. On Saturday, it arrived a little earlier and was about to land at 12.45pm.

However, due to crosswinds, the pilot could not touch down at the start of the runway, and the flight floated in and touched the middle of the runway. The flight took off immediately, went around and landed again at 12.58pm.

Airport authorities have said only when the flight lands at the threshold point will the pilot have enough runway time to slow down the flight and taxi it to the parking bay. "Long float of the flight into the runway is not unu-

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**Due to crosswinds, the pilot could not touch down at the start of the runway, and the flight floated in and touched the middle of the runway. The flight took off immediately, went around and landed again at 12.58pm.**

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sual. Pilots go around for safety reasons," a senior official said.

For most passengers, however, the experience was new. C Rajesh from Chennai, who was onboard the flight, said passengers including him were a little confused until the inflight announcement.

"I fly almost every week for work, but never have I experienced this before. There was a momentary slowdown after the first landing, before the flight gathered pace again and flew again. Thankfully, nothing happened to anyone," he said.

## Curb hoaxes or face action, govt tells social media cos

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### Now, 2 dozen hotels get bomb hoaxes

Nearly two dozen hotels across Kolkata, Tirupati and Rajkot went into a tizzy on Saturday after emailed bomb threats that eventually turned out to be a hoax. The incident has deepened fears that the festival season menace was now spreading to other sectors. **P 8**

international flights operated by foreign carriers were also affected. **TNN**

► **Economic security, P 16**

## Hoax bomb threats destabilise economic security of India: Govt

► **From P 1**

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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 so-



cial media intermediaries to "observe their due diligence obligations that include the 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 under BNSS.

This includes the obligation to report offences that involve threats to the unity, integrity, sovereignty or eco-

nomics 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."