



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## EVs at airports to cut emissions

Government plans to add EV charging infra to airports

Manas Pimpalkhare & Dhendra Kumar

NEW DELHI

**T**he government is drawing up a plan to cut carbon emissions at airports by introducing electric vehicles (EV) and setting up charging infrastructure to make airport operations in the country more sustainable.

The Union ministries of heavy industries and civil aviation are readying a set of requirements to add EV charging infrastructure to airports across the country, two government officials aware of the matter said, adding that this plan will be implemented as a part of the PM E-drive scheme that aims to accelerate the adoption of EVs by providing financial incentives.

The PM E-drive scheme, which has a total outlay of ₹10,900 crore to be disbursed over two years, is set to subsidize the setting up of public EV charging stations with an allocation of ₹2,000 crore for the period.

"The civil aviation ministry will come up with a plan...with their (EV charging) requirements for the airports, then the ministry of heavy industries will provide the necessary aid to set up those chargers," said the first of the two officials cited earlier, both of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The second official told *Mint* that charging infrastructure will be allotted to airports based on these inputs, in a bid to promote the usage of EVs.



The PM E-drive scheme is set to allocate ₹2,000 crore over the next two years to subsidize setting up of public EV charging stations. AP

These chargers will aid passengers who have parked their vehicles at airports, as well as the ground support equipment (GSE) fleets at the airport, the officials said.

GSE fleet on an airport commonly includes aircraft tugs, refuellers, maintenance platforms, ground power units, as well as vehicles transporting passengers and cargo. These vehicles usually run on fossil fuels and cover short distances, which means electrifying them is low-hanging fruit.

Emails sent to the ministry of civil aviation, and Airports Authority of India (AAI) seeking their comment did not elicit any response till press time.

The setting up of electric vehicle chargers across airports assumes importance as it is likely to aid India's aviation sector in reducing its carbon

footprint and enabling sustainable operations.

"By replacing traditional diesel-powered equipment with electric ground support equipment (eGSE), airports can drastically reduce their carbon footprint, improve air quality, and enhance energy efficiency," said Raghav Arora, co-founder and chief technology officer, Statiq, which provides electric vehicle charging infrastructure to the upcoming Noida International Airport.

"This transition supports global sustainability goals while delivering quieter operations and a healthier environment for airport staff and surrounding communities," Arora added.

Rituraj Baruah contributed to the story  
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# Corporate Communications Directorate

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DAINIK NAVJYOTI

JAIPUR

27 DECEMBER 2024

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## छह घंटे एयरपोर्ट पर रहे यात्री

इंडिगो की जयपुर से रात 11.05 बजे बैंगलुरु जाने वाली फ्लाइट सुबह 5.40 बजे रवाना हुई। इस फ्लाइट में तकनीकी खराबी हो गई थी। इस फ्लाइट में यात्री भी सवार हो गए थे। अचानक तकनीकी खराबी होने के कारण रात 12 बजे सभी यात्रियों को नीचे उतारा गया। विमान ठीक होने के बाद सुबह 5.40 बजे रवाना हुआ।



# Corporate Communication Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## Jewar Airport will be the largest airport in Asia

*YEIDA, anchored by the Jewar International Airport, is transforming Uttar Pradesh into a global economic hub, with industrial clusters, world-class infrastructure, and multimodal connectivity, promising robust growth, jobs, and sustainable development*

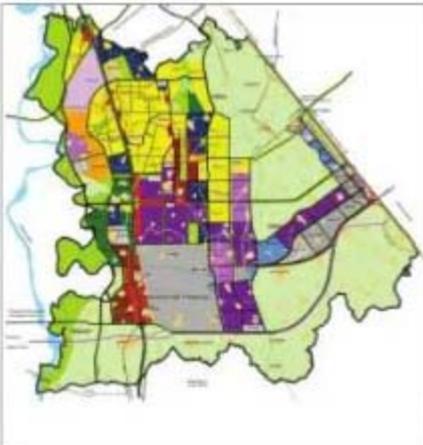
The Yama Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA), anchored by the upcoming Jewar International Airport, is set to transform the region into a global economic hub, spanning over 5,000 hectares. The airport will be India's largest, showcasing connectivity and attracting investments in logistics, manufacturing, and services. The CEO of YEIDA and CEO of India International Airport Limited (AIIL) Anurag Singh, in an interview, spoke about the authority's planned industrial clusters, smart cities, and seamless infrastructure aims to boost employment, foster exports, and drive regional GDP growth. He also addressed the Jewar Airport's status as a key player in global trade, promoting job creation and modern infrastructure for businesses and residents in the region.



Dr. Anurag Singh, CEO, Yama Expressway Industrial Development Authority, AIIL

**Can you share how YEIDA came into existence?**  
The Uttar Pradesh government established YEIDA with the vision of creating an industrial township to attract major companies. When the state approached Singapore for infrastructure development, during that period, the Yama Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) was also formed to further expand industrial opportunities in the Greater Noida Region district. YEIDA has become a hub for software technology parks (STPs), manufacturing plants, a major risk fund in India, a leading start-up cluster and manufacturing sector, leading companies like Zee and Zee5, etc.

**How was the Jewar International Airport, which is set to become the largest airport in Asia, conceptualized? Can you**



**Several major companies, such as Avery Dennison (a Fortune 500 company), Bikanervala, Surya Global Film, and Vivo, have commenced operations. Vivo alone manufactures around 200,000 mobile phones daily**

**Share some of the salient features of the airport?**  
The airport concept was initiated in 2016 during YEIDA's inception, based on the NIP Planning Board's approval. The project gained traction only after the 2019 Bharat Ratna award to the Prime Minister, including the Chairman's letter to the Union Cabinet and the Union Minister's approval (2020). The first tender was won by the JV of the Airport Authority of India (AAI) and the Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP). The airport is set to be the largest in Asia, with a capacity of 200 million passengers annually. It will have a 4.5 km runway, including one for military use, and a 2.5 km taxiway. The airport will also have a 2.5 km taxiway, including one for military use, and a 2.5 km taxiway. The airport will also have a 2.5 km taxiway, including one for military use, and a 2.5 km taxiway.

The ground transportation system for Jewar Airport has been meticulously planned with all facilities already in place and passengers will access the Ground Transportation Centre (GTC) from the terminal via air bridges. From the GTC, they can choose rapid rail, metro, transit buses, or taxis. These plans have been approved, and the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will conduct the tender for the rail line from Ghaziabad to Jewar. The rail line will be a 20 km long line with 10 stations. The airport will also have a 20 km long line with 10 stations. The airport will also have a 20 km long line with 10 stations.

**The ground transportation system for Jewar Airport has been meticulously planned, with all facilities already in place and passengers will access the Ground Transportation Centre (GTC) from the terminal via air bridges. From the GTC, they can choose rapid rail, metro, transit buses, or taxis. These plans have already been approved**

**Share when**  
Jewar Airport will also connect to the existing infrastructure. It will be the first in the region to have a 20 km long line with 10 stations. The airport will also have a 20 km long line with 10 stations. The airport will also have a 20 km long line with 10 stations.

**Can you talk about the development of Japanese, Korean, and US-based clusters in the YEIDA region?**  
There have been initiatives for a 500-acre Japanese cluster in Uttar Pradesh, featuring a mixed-use residential, 70% industrial, 15% commercial, 5% educational, and the rest for facilities. A similar Korean cluster and a US-based sustainable township are also in the pipeline. Investments in infrastructure include 100 MW solar power plants and 2,500 acres of land for agriculture and housing. The region is also a hub for technology and services, with major companies like Zee and Zee5, etc.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## एयरपोर्ट के पास 451 लोग आशियाना बना सकेंगे

ग्रेटर नोएडा, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट के पास घर बनाने का सपना देखने वाले 1.11 लाख लोगों की किस्मत का फैसला शुक्रवार को हो गया। यमुना प्राधिकरण की 451 आवासीय भूखंड की योजना का इंडिया एक्सपो मार्ट में आठ घंटे तक ड्रा चला। ड्रा के तहत सभी श्रेणियों में 451 आवेदकों का ड्रा में नाम निकला।

पारदर्शिता के लिए ड्रा का यूट्यूब व अन्य सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर लाइव प्रसारण किया गया। एक्सपो मार्ट में सुबह 10 बजे ड्रा की औपचारिक घोषणा की गई। स्कूली बच्चों के हाथों पर्ची निकलवाने का क्रम शुरू किया

■ आवासीय योजना में एक लाख से अधिक लोगों ने किया था आवेदन

गया, जो शाम करीब छह बजे तक जारी रहा। आरक्षण की पर्चियों पर भी स्कूली बच्चों ने ही निकाली। भूखंड योजना में 1,11,703 आवेदकों की किस्मत का पर्ची से फैसला हुआ। ड्रा की निगरानी के लिए हाईकोर्ट के तीन सेवानिवृत्त जजों के पैनल को आमंत्रित किया गया था। ड्रा में चुने गए आवेदकों को 60 दिनों के भीतर भूखंड की पूरी कीमत का भुगतान करना होगा। 61वें दिन से जुमाने का प्रावधान है।



## Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

27 DECEMBER 2024

{ FIVE PASSENGERS ARRIVED FROM BANGKOK WITH WEED WORTH ₹26 CR }

# 5 held at airport with 26 kg marijuana

**Manish Kumar Pathak**

manish.pathak@htlive.com

**MUMBAI:** The Customs department on Thursday arrested five passengers, who had arrived from Bangkok, and seized 26 kilograms of hydroponic weed (marijuana) worth ₹26 crore from them.

The accused had hidden the contraband in silver-coloured plastic pouches concealed in chips, noodles, washing powder and diaper packets.

According to a Customs official, they received specific information about some passengers coming from Bangkok carrying banned contraband with them

and intercepted them when they arrived at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) on December 25.

The passengers were taken aside once they were identified, and searches were conducted. It was found that they were carrying narcotic substances concealed in double-layered silver-coloured plastic packets, which were further hidden inside multiple packets of chips, washing powder, diapers, and instant noodles, all placed inside their trolley bags, said the Customs official.

On seizing the contraband, it was found that the five passen-

gers were carrying a total of 26.481 kilograms of hydroponic weed. The seized substance is valued at approximately ₹26 crore in the illicit market.

All five passengers were arrested under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. They are being questioned to find out to whom the contraband was to be delivered in the city. "Their mobile records are being scrutinised," added the official.

In last three months, the Customs department seized a total of 115 kilograms of contraband substances worth ₹115 crore at the CSMIA.



The contraband was hidden in food and diaper packets. HT



# Corporate Communications Directorate

PUNJAB KESARI

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## एयरपोर्ट के पास 451 को मिला प्लॉट

नोएडा, (पंजाब केसरी) : यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे इंडस्ट्रीयल डेवलपमेंट अथॉरिटी की सबसे बड़ी प्लॉट स्कीम के आवेदकों का इंतजार शुक्रवार को खत्म हो गया है। नोएडा इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट इलाके में घर बनाने की चाहत रखने वाले लोगों के लिए घोषित प्लॉट स्कीम की लॉटरी का ड्रा हो रहा है। आवासीय प्लॉट योजना 2024 के लिए आज पंचियां निकालकर प्लॉट आवंटन की

प्रक्रिया शुरू हुई है। नए साल के मौके पर आवेदकों को अपने प्लॉट का तोहफा मिल रहा है। प्राधिकरण के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी डॉक्टर अरुणवीर सिंह ने बताया कि स्कीम की ड्रा इंडिया एक्सपोर्ट में तीन रिटायर्ड जर्जों की देखरेख में हो रहा है। कुल 451 भूखंडों के लिए आवंटन हो रहा है, जिसमें 1 लाख 11 हजार 703 लोगों ने आवेदन किया है।



## Corporate Communications Directorate

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RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

JAIPUR

27 DECEMBER 2024

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### एयरपोर्ट; यात्रीभार बढ़ा, पोर्च में जाम

जयपुर | जयपुर एयरपोर्ट के पोर्च में इन दिनों जाम की समस्या बढ़ गई है। दरअसल एयरपोर्ट पर इन दिनों यात्रीभार में बढ़ोतरी हुई है। एयरपोर्ट पर रोज औसतन 20 हजार यात्रियों का आवागमन हो रहा है। ऐसे में वीआईपी मूवमेंट के चलते एक लेन रिजर्व्ड रहती है। वहीं एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन ने पोर्च में रेलिंग भी आगे तक बढ़ाई हुई है। ऐसे में आम यात्रियों के पोर्च में निकलने के लिए सिर्फ दो ही लेन मिलती हैं। इसके चलते पोर्च में गाड़ियों का जाम लगता है। ये समस्या अलसुबह और दोपहर के समय ज्यादा रहती है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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## **DGCA suspends 2 senior executives of Akasa Air**

**Mumbai:** Directorate General of Civil Aviation has suspended director (training) and director (operations) of Akasa Air for six months for lapses in pilot training. This action follows a regulatory audit in October and comes in the wake of complaint by Akasa Air pilots which accused the senior management of favouritism and bias. [OUR BUREAU](#)

# लाभ में आने के लिए तौर-तरीके मजबूत करेगी एयर इंडिया

दीपक पटेल

नई दिल्ली, 27 दिसंबर

टाटा समूह की विमानन कंपनी एयर इंडिया अगले साल 2025 में अपने कामकाज के तरीकों और प्रक्रियाओं को मजबूत करेगी, जिससे कि वह सक्षम बन जाए और परिचालन लाभ में आ जाए। कंपनी के मुख्य कार्य अधिकारी और प्रबंध निदेशक कैपबेल विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को कर्मचारियों को भेजे संदेश में ये बातें कहीं।

उन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी अगले साल उत्कृष्टता की साझा संस्कृति विकसित करने, जवाबदेही और ग्राहकों के पंसद बनाने पर ध्यान देगी जिससे कि दोनों विलय से जुड़ी अनिश्चितताएं और चुनौतियां खत्म

हो जाएं। नवंबर में विस्तारा का पूर्ण सेवा विमानन कंपनी एयर इंडिया में विलय किया गया था। उससे एक महीने

पहले एआईएक्स कनेक्ट का एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस में विलय हुआ था जो एयर इंडिया की कम लागत वाली सहायक विमानन कंपनी है।

एयर इंडिया समूह के कर्मचारियों को भेजे संदेश में विल्सन ने कहा है, '2025 में विमानन कंपनी की कई और प्रमुख पहलों पर प्रगति दिखेगी। कंपनी अपनी कार्यप्रणाली और प्रक्रियाओं को सुदृढ़ बनाएगी

ताकि हम न केवल सुसंगत रहें, बल्कि दक्ष बनें और मुनाफे में आ सकें।'



# अकासा एयर के 2 अधिकारी 6 महीने के लिए निलंबित

दीपक पटेल  
नई दिल्ली, 27 दिसंबर

विमानन नियामक डीजीसीए ने अकासा एयर के दो वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों – प्रशिक्षण निदेशक नीरज भाटिया और फ्लाइट ऑपरेशंस निदेशक फ्लॉयड ग्रेसियस को 6 महीने के लिए निलंबित कर दिया है। बिजनेस स्टैंडर्ड को पता चला है कि पायलटों को गलत तरीके से प्रशिक्षण देने की वजह से इन अधिकारियों पर निलंबन की गाज गिरी है।

नागर विमानन महानिदेशालय

(डीजीसीए) ने कहा कि भाटिया और ग्रेसियस अपने कर्मियों को पर्याप्त प्रशिक्षण देने में विफल रहे हैं।

नियामक के साथ एयरलाइन का यह पहला विवाद नहीं है। इस महीने की शुरुआत में भी डीजीसीए ने 6 सितंबर को बेंगलूरु-पुणे उड़ान में सात यात्रियों को चढ़ने से वंचित करने और अनिवार्य मुआवजा नहीं दिए जाने की वजह से अकासा एयर पर 10 लाख रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया था।

इसके अलावा, डीजीसीए ने दिसंबर में एयरलाइन को दो कारण बताओ नोटिस जारी किए थे।

# *Air India to strengthen practices in 2025, become profitable: CEO*

**DEEPAK PATEL**

New Delhi, 27 December

If 2024 was the year of consolidation, when Air India, Vistara, Air India Express and AirAsia (India) came under one roof, 2025 will be the year when the Tata-owned airline will strengthen its practices and processes to become consistent, efficient in service, and ultimately profitable in its operations, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & Managing Director (MD) Campbell Wilson told employees in a message sent on Friday.

With the successful mergers of Vistara into Air India and AIX Connect with Air India Express a thing of the past, Wilson said that the Air India Group will now focus on building a common culture of excellence, accountability and

customer obsession in 2025.

“2025 will see progress on many more key initiatives, such as refitting our wide-body and remaining narrow-body aircraft with new seats and services, further elevating Air India’s service standards, raising the bar on what we consider ‘good’, and more consistently delivering to those new expectations. We will also strengthen and tighten our practices and processes so that we are not just consistent, we are also efficient and, ultimately, profitable,” Wilson said in a message to employees of the group.

“Underpinning it all will be our culture. With Air India, Vistara, Air India Express and AirAsia (India)

now under one roof, and all the uncertainties and challenges of merger receding into history, we must now look forward, as a united team, to a common destination. While that destination — of being a world class, global airline group with an Indian heart — is clear, a culture of excellence, accountability, collaboration, mutual support and customer obsession will be the fuel to take us there. We will be working hard in 2025, with you, to embed this deeply into our DNA,” he said.

Air India Group has a fleet of about 300 aircraft. About 210 of them are with Air India while the rest are in the fleet of Air India Express. The group expects to add

100 planes in its fleet by 2027.

Wilson said that a total of 30,000 employees now work at the group and they help the two airlines fly over 60 million passengers annually to more than 100 destinations in and outside India.

In his message, Wilson reminisced about the multiple milestones that the group achieved in 2024.

“We introduced India’s first A350 aircraft into service, added another 100 aircraft to our

already-huge order book, inaugurated our new Training Academy in Gurugram, broke ground on our new maintenance base in Bengaluru and committed to a new 34-aircraft flight school in Amravati,” he noted.

“We deployed new websites, new uniforms, new inflight service ware and improved catering, and started receiving significant external awards for our service, technology and entertainment systems. Our frequent flyer program was completely revamped and renamed, new revenue management systems and fare families were deployed in both Air India and Air India Express, and

new and improved customer call centres were inaugurated,” Wilson added.

**After successful mergers, airline to focus on culture of excellence and accountability, Campbell Wilson told employees**



# DGCA suspends two Akasa Air executives

DEEPAK PATEL

New Delhi, 27 December

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday suspended two senior Akasa Air executives — Director of Training Niraj Bhatia and Director of Flight Operations Floyd Gracious — for six months over pilot training lapses, *Business Standard* has learnt.

In two separate orders, the regulator said it conducted an audit on October 7 and found that "RNP training (approaches)" of pilots were being conducted on simulators that have not been qualified for the same. RNP (Required Navigation Performance) training teaches pilots to operate aircraft in airspace requiring

precise navigation, typically using satellite-based systems like GPS.

The DGCA said that Bhatia and Gracious have failed to train personnel adequately. "Also, repeated lapses/violations have been found pertaining to training," it said.

The regulator ordered the suspension of both the executives for six months.

Akasa Air Spokesperson told *Business Standard*, "Akasa Air is in receipt of an order from the DGCA dated 27th December 2024. We will continue to work with the DGCA and comply accordingly. Safety is of utmost importance, and we continuously strive to pursue the highest standards of safety."





## Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

JAIPUR

27 DECEMBER 2024

### बेंगलुरु फ्लाइट में तकनीकी खराबी, 140 यात्री 5 घंटे तक परेशान रहे

जयपुर | एयरपोर्ट पर बुधवार देर रात बेंगलुरु जा रहे यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। मामला इंडिगो एयरलाइंस की जयपुर से बेंगलुरु जाने वाली फ्लाइट का है। इंडिगो की फ्लाइट संख्या 6ई-373 जयपुर से रात 11:05 बजे बेंगलुरु के लिए रवाना होनी थी, लेकिन तकनीकी खराबी के चलते रवाना नहीं हो सकी। ऐसे में रात 12 बजे विमान से सभी 140 यात्रियों को उतारा गया। इसके बाद यात्री रातभर एयरपोर्ट पर इंतजार करते रहे। सुबह 5:40 बजे यात्रियों को दूसरे विमान 6ई-839 से बेंगलुरु भेजा गया।

दिल्ली की फ्लाइट देरी से उड़ीगुरुवार को लगातार चौथे दिन भी दिल्ली की फ्लाइट लेट होने से यात्रियों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की फ्लाइट आईएक्स-1199 जयपुर से दोपहर 12:20 बजे जाने की बजाय 2 घंटे से भी अधिक देरी से 2:25 बजे दिल्ली के लिए रवाना हो सकी। वहीं सोमवार को फ्लाइट सवा चार घंटे तो मंगलवार और बुधवार को फ्लाइट 2-2 घंटे की देरी से रवाना हुई। एयरलाइंस प्रबंधन द्वारा लेट होने के पीछे की वजह भी नहीं बताई जा रही है।



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024



### DGCA Suspends Two Akasa Air Execs over Pilot Training Lapses

Our Bureau

**New Delhi:** The civil aviation industry regulator on Friday suspended Akasa Air's heads of operations and training for allegedly conducting pilots' training on unqualified simulators and "repeated lapses and violations in training".

The directorate general of civil aviation (DGCA) suspended operations head Floyd Gracious and training head Neeraj Bhatia for six months after finding their replies to its earlier notices unsatisfactory.

"The director operations and director training of SNV Aviation (registered company that operates Akasa Air) have failed to train personnel adequately. Also, repeated lapses and violations in training have been found," the regulator said in its order.



**Action comes after an audit found the airline has been conducting pilots' RNP approach training on unqualified simulators**

ET reviewed a copy of the order. Akasa Air confirmed that they have received the order. "Safety is of utmost importance, and we continuously strive to pursue the highest standards of safety," the airline said.

Akasa will have to replace the two positions and take

corrective measures to continue operations without any disruption. DGCA's action comes after an audit conducted on October 7 found that the airline has been conducting pilots' RNP (required navigation performance) approach training on unqualified and unapproved simulators. The simulators were maintained by CAE Simulation Training, a joint venture between InterGlobe Enterprises, which owns the country's largest airline IndiGo, and Canadian company CAE.

An RNP approach is a modern landing method where an aircraft uses advanced navigation systems like GPS to follow a precise flight path to the runway.

## Aiming to make Air India profitable: Campbell Wilson

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR  
Mumbai, December 27

**AFTER UNDERGOING** A series of changes over the past three years following its takeover by the Tata Group, Air India is targeting to become operationally profitable in the coming period, a top company official said on Friday.

Operating a fleet of 300 aircraft across Air India and Air India Express, clocking over 60 million flyers annually, the airline business is already the fourth largest revenue generator for the Tata Group.

Addressing Air India's employees, Campbell Wilson, managing director and CEO, said, "2025 will see progress on refitting our widebody and remaining narrowbody aircraft with new seats and services. We will also strengthen and tighten our practices and processes so that we are not just consistent, we are also efficient and, ultimately, profitable."

In its first full year under its new owner, the former flag carrier more than halved its net loss during FY24 to ₹4,444 crore, buoyed by growth in capacity and improved occupancies of flights. In FY23, the airline had recorded a loss of ₹11,388 crore.

Air India recorded its highest consolidated annual operating revenues of ₹51,365 crore, up 25% driven by growth in capacity to 105,059 million ASKM (available seat kilometres), up 21% and improvement in passenger load factor to 85% (from 82%) during FY24.

In November, Tata Sons successfully merged Singapore Airlines-trained Vistara into Air India to create the country's largest and only full-service carrier. Previously, it had merged AirAsia India into Air India Express to make the latter the low-cost carrier under its wings. The Air India group controls 27% of India's domestic aviation market across two airlines.

While induction of new aircraft is

**CAMPBELL WILSON,**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR  
AND CEO, AIR INDIA

2025 will see progress on refitting our widebody and remaining narrowbody aircraft with new seats and services. We will also strengthen our practices and processes so that we are not just consistent, we are also efficient & profitable



progressing steadily for Air India, there are a total of 529 aircraft pending for delivery. Of these, 344 are due from Airbus, including the 100 it ordered earlier in December and 185 are due from Boeing.

"With Air India, Vistara, Air India Express and AirAsia now under one roof, and all the uncertainties and challenges of merger receding into history, we must now look forward, as a united team, to a common destination of being a world class, global airline group with an Indian heart," Wilson added.

Air India has set up a 600,000 sq ft integrated aviation training academy, the largest in South Asia, in Gurugram.

It has also announced a new flying school at Amravati and maintenance training school at Bengaluru.





# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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## **DGCA suspends two Akasa Air officials over training lapses**

AVIATION SAFETY REGULATOR  
DGCA on Friday ordered suspension of director of operations and director of training at Akasa Air for six months for alleged lapses in pilots' training. The two senior executives of the airline have "failed" to ensure "compliances" with the civil aviation requirements, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said in its two separate orders of December 27.

## US airline stocks beat market

**BLOOMBERG**  
December 27

**A RECORD YEAR FOR** travel in the US is pushing airline stocks to a soaring annual outperformance, and the prospect of sustained earnings power points to a bullish outlook for 2025.

The S&P Supercomposite Airlines Index has jumped 60% in 2024, compared with a 27% gain for the S&P 500 Index. It's the best year for the industry gauge since 2014, which is also the last time it beat the broader market by this amount. United Airlines Holdings Inc., the airline gauge's top performer, is up 144% this year, making it the fourth-biggest gainer in the S&P 500.

Americans have been flying in unprecedented numbers, with the top 10 travel days in the Trans-

### A RECORD YEAR FOR AIR TRAVEL



portation Security Administration's history coming in 2024, according to the US Department of Transportation.

The travel itch is one reason the stocks have rebounded from a mid-year slump. The other side of the equation is that there's been limited

growth in capacity, partly because carriers are cutting back on unprofitable routes. Barclays sees seat growth below 3% for US airlines in 2025, short of long-term pre-pandemic trends. Investors also see the shares as trading cheaply, say Barclays analysts.

## 7 से 10 किलोग्राम तक का ही बैग ले जा सकते हैं यात्री फ्लाइट में यात्री अब एक हैंड बैग ही कैरी कर सकेंगे, जारी हुई नई गाइडलाइन

एजेसी >> नई दिल्ली

हवाई यात्रा करने वालों के लिए बड़ी खबर है। अब देश के हवाई यात्रियों के लिए हैंड बैग नियम लागू हो गया है। ब्यूरो ऑफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी ने हैंड बैग को लेकर नई गाइडलाइन जारी कर दी है। नए नियमों के मुताबिक, हर यात्री अब केवल एक हैंड बैग ही कैरी कर सकेगा। चाहे घरेलू उड़ान हो या अंतरराष्ट्रीय, यह नियम सभी पर लागू होगा। बीसीएस का दावा है कि नए नियम से सुरक्षा जांच में तेजी आएगी। साथ ही सफर में यात्रियों को भी आराम मिलेगा। नई गाइडलाइन्स के मुताबिक, इकॉनमी और प्रीमियम इकॉनमी यात्रियों के लिए हैंड बैग का वजन 7 किलोग्राम तक सीमित है। बिजनेस और फर्स्ट क्लास यात्रियों के लिए यह सीमा 10 किलोग्राम है। बैग का आकार 55 सेमी (ऊंचाई), 40 सेमी (लंबाई), और 20 सेमी (चौड़ाई) से ज्यादा नहीं होना चाहिए। एयर इंडिया और इंडिगो जैसी एयरलाइंस पर भी यह नियम लागू होगा।



### सिक्योरिटी जांच पर नए नियम का क्या होगा असर ?

नए नियम के लागू होने के बाद यात्रियों को हैंड बैग को छोड़कर बाकी सभी लगेज अब चेक-इन बैग के तहत जमा करना होगा। चेक-इन बैग वही सामान होता है जिसे यात्री फ्लाइट के दौरान अपने साथ केबिन में नहीं ले जा सकते। इसे एयरपोर्ट पर चेक-इन काउंटर पर जमा करना पड़ता है।

### इंडिगो एयरलाइंस अपनी तरफ से दे रहा छूट

इंडिगो एयरलाइंस ने हालांकि, नए नियमों के बावजूद अपने कस्टमर्स को छूट दी है। इंडिगो से ट्रेवल करने वाले यात्रियों को दो हैंड बैग ले जाने की इजाजत होगी। इनमें से एक का वजन 7 किलोग्राम से ज्यादा नहीं होना चाहिए। इसके साथ ही कोई एक दूसरा सामान जैसे पर्स या छोटा लैपटॉप बैग ले जाने की भी इजाजत होगी। हालांकि, दूसरे बैग का वजन 3 किलोग्राम से ज्यादा नहीं होना चाहिए।

### पहले से बुकिंग वालों को दी राहत

बीसीएस ने कहा जिन पैसेजर्स ने 4 मई 2024 से पहले अपनी टिकट बुक करी है ऐसे यात्रियों के लिए इकॉनमी क्लास में 8 किलोग्राम, प्रीमियम इकॉनमी में 10 किलो, और फर्स्ट/बिजनेस क्लास में 12 किलो तक का हैंड बैग ले जाने की इजाजत होगी। हालांकि, अगर ऐसे पैसेजर्स बुकिंग में कोई बदलाव किया गया तो ये छूट खत्म हो जाएगी।

### नए नियमों को नहीं मानने पर कार्रवाई

नए नियमों का पालन नहीं करने पर कार्रवाई होगी। अगर हैंड बैग वजन या बैग का साइज तय सीमा से ज्यादा हुआ, तो एयरलाइन इसे चेक-इन बैग के लिए कह सकती है। इसके लिए एयरलाइंस की ओर से एक्स्ट्रा चार्ज भी वसूल किया जा सकता है। नियमों का उल्लंघन करने पर एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी जुर्माना लगा सकती है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## अकासा एयर के प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को निलंबित किया

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। नागरिक विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने ऑडिट रिपोर्ट में नियमों का उल्लंघन पाए जाने के बाद अकासा एयर के प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को 6 महीने के लिए निलंबित कर दिया है।

डीजीसीए की तरफ से जारी निलंबन पत्र में कहा गया है कि मैसर्स एसएनवी एविएशन प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (अकासा एयर) मुंबई के प्रशिक्षण निदेशक आवश्यक नेविगेशनल प्रदर्शन (आरएनपी) प्रशिक्षण को पास नहीं कर पाए, जो नागरिक उड्डयन से जुड़ी आवश्यकता का उल्लंघन है।

डीजीसीए ने कहा कि इस संबंध में 15 अक्टूबर, 2024 को अकासा एयर के प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को कारण बताओ नोटिस भी जारी किया गया, जिसका जवाब 30 अक्टूबर को दिया गया।

अकासा एयर का जवाब संतोषजनक नहीं पाया गया, जिसके बाद यह कार्रवाई की गई है। डीजीसीए ने कहा प्रशिक्षण निदेशक अपने स्टॉफ को विधिवत प्रशिक्षण देने में सक्षम नहीं है। वह सुरक्षित संचालन को बनाए रखने के लिए कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन और कानूनी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में विफल रहे हैं।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDU

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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## Aviation body suspends two top officials at Akasa Air

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday suspended Akasa Air's head of operations and head of training for six months each for lapses in training.

In an order, the DGCA wrote, "Director Training of M/s SNV Aviation private Limited (Akasa Air) dated 30th October 2024 has been examined and was found unsatisfactory." It said that the Director of Operations, Captain Floyd Gracious, and Director of Training, Neeraj Bhatia, were being suspended for six months.

This action follows a regulatory audit in October. The DGCA audit had found that pilots were being trained navigation approaches on a simulator which was not certified for the procedure. The DGCA said this was in violation of its rule and issued a show cause notice to the airline, but found the airline's response to be unsatisfactory.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

# Akasa Air's directors suspended following lapses found in audit

**Neha LM Tripathi**

neha.tripathi@htlive.com

**NEW DELHI:** The civil aviation regulator on Friday suspended Akasa Air's directors of operations and flight training for six months each after an audit found lapses.

The action was taken after the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), in a regulatory audit conducted on October 7 in Mumbai, found that the required navigation performance (RNP) training was being conducted on "unqualified" simulators, in violation of its rules.

RNP training equips pilots with the skills needed to operate within airspaces and procedures that require a specific level of navigation accuracy and performance.

Akasa Air's spokesperson said, "Akasa Air is in receipt of an order from the DGCA dated

27th December 2024. We will continue to work with the DGCA and comply accordingly. Safety is of utmost importance, and we continuously strive to pursue the highest standards of safety."

Akasa has over 800 pilots and 26 aircraft in its fleet.

DGCA had issued show cause notices to the airline's director (operations) and director (training) on October 15. DGCA found the replies submitted on October 30 unsatisfactory.

"...Whereas Director Operations of Mis SNV Aviation Pvt. Ltd. has failed to train personnel adequately. Also, repeated lapses/violation has been found pertaining to training," said the order.

DGCA also said that both the officials failed to discharge their duties to meet applicable legal requirements and to maintain safe operations in accordance with the rules.



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण  
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE HINDU

CHENNAI

27 DECEMBER 2024

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## Bureau of Immigration imposes penalties on IndiGo

InterGlobe Aviation, parent of India's largest airline IndiGo, said the Bureau of Immigration s imposed fines worth ₹2 lakh for visa-related violations of two passengers. In a filing, the airline said it was exploring the possibilities of filing an appeal against the orders passed by the Bureau of Immigration. PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## DGCA suspends 2 senior Akasa Air officials over lapses in pilot training

ENSECONOMICBUREAU  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 27

INDIA'S AVIATION safety regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has suspended two senior officials of Akasa Air over lapses in training of pilots, according to sources in the know. The regulator has suspended the carrier's director operations and director training for six months, and has advised the airline to appoint suitable candidates in their place.

The action follows an audit by the safety regulator that revealed failure in compliance with civil aviation requirements on the airline's part, it is learnt.

"Akasa Air is in receipt of an order from the DGCA dated 27th December 2024. We will continue to work with the DGCA and comply accordingly. Safety is of utmost importance, and we continuously strive to pursue the highest standards of safety," an Akasa Air spokesperson said.

A request to the DGCA seek-

ing comment on the matter remained unanswered.

Friday's action by the DGCA follows a series of fines imposed by the regulator on the fledgling airline in recent months, including those pertaining to lapses in pilot training.

A section of the airline's pilots had also recently approached the civil aviation ministry alleging mismanagement, favouritism, harassment, and compromised safety standards in the airline's pilot training and evaluation processes. The carrier had denied these allegations as "baseless and untrue".

According to sources in the know, the DGCA's decision to suspend the two senior Akasa Air officials followed an audit of the carrier's training facility in October, in which the regulator discovered lapses in pilots' training for "required navigation performance (RNP) approaches". The DGCA observed that simulators being used for the training were not equipped for training for RNP approaches, it is learnt.

## एयर इंडिया 2025 में प्रमुख पहलों पर प्रगति देखेगी

### प्रगति

- विमानन कंपनी अपने कामकाज के तरीकों और प्रक्रियाओं को भी मजबूत करेगी

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी।

विमानन कंपनी एयर इंडिया के प्रमुख कैपबेल विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि 2025 तक कंपनी की विभिन्न प्रमुख पहलों पर प्रगति देखने को मिलेगी, जिसमें चौड़े तथा छोटे आकार के विमानों की मरम्मत शामिल है।

विल्सन ने कहा कि साथ ही विमानन कंपनी अपने कामकाज के तरीकों और प्रक्रियाओं को भी मजबूत करेगी, जिससे अंततः वह लाभ में आ जाएगी।

जनवरी 2022 में घाटे में चल

लाभ की दिशा में कर रही है काम: सीईओ विल्सन



रही एयर इंडिया को सरकार से अपने नियंत्रण में लेने के बाद से टाटा समूह विमानन कंपनी को फिर से पटरी पर लाने के लिए महत्वाकांक्षी परिवर्तन योजना पर काम कर रहा है। इसने हाल ही में 100 और विमानों के लिए ऑर्डर भी दिए हैं।

विल्सन ने शुक्रवार को कर्मचारियों को अपने संदेश में कहा, "2024 में कुछ सबसे महत्वपूर्ण

उपलब्धियां हासिल होंगी, जिनमें एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस और एयरएशिया इंडिया तथा विस्तारा का एयर इंडिया के साथ विलय शामिल है, जो हमें राजस्व के हिसाब से टाटा समूह में चौथा सबसे बड़ा व्यवसाय बना देगा।"

एयर इंडिया समूह दोनों ब्रांड के 300 विमानों का परिचालन करता है, जो प्रतिवर्ष छह करोड़ से अधिक

लोगों की भारत तथा दुनियाभर में 100 से अधिक स्थानों तथा गंतव्यों तक यात्रा सुनिश्चित करता है।

विल्सन ने 2024 को कई मायनों में एयर इंडिया और भारतीय विमानन के लिए एक परिवर्तनकारी वर्ष बताते हुए कहा कि 2025 में विमानन कंपनी की कई और प्रमुख पहलों पर प्रगति देखी जाएगी, जैसे कि नई सीटों तथा सेवाओं के साथ चौड़े आकार और संकीर्ण आकार के विमानों को फिर से तैयार करना।

एयर इंडिया के मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी एवं प्रबंध निदेशक विल्सन ने इस बात पर भी जोर दिया कि विमानन कंपनी अपनी कार्यप्रणाली और प्रक्रियाओं को सुदृढ़ बनाएगी ताकि "हम न केवल सुसंगत रहें, बल्कि अंततः मुनाफे में आ सकें।"



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## Air India to see progress on key initiatives in 2025: CEO Wilson

MINT



**New Delhi:** Air India will see progress on various key initiatives, including refitting of wide body and narrow body planes, in 2025 as well as tighten practices and processes to ultimately become profitable, the airline's chief Campbell Wilson said on Friday. After taking over Air India in January 2022, Tata Group has been working on an ambitious transformation plan to turn around the airline.

PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## अकासा एयर के दो निदेशक निलंबित

पायनियर समाचार सेवा | नई दिल्ली

नागरिक विमानन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने शुक्रवार को पायलट प्रशिक्षण में चूक के लिए अकासा एयर के निदेशक (प्रशिक्षण) और निदेशक (संचालन) को छह महीने के लिए निलंबित कर दिया। यह कार्रवाई अक्टूबर में एक विनियामक ऑडिट के बाद की गई है और अकासा एयर के पायलटों की शिकायत के मद्देनजर की गई है, जिसमें वरिष्ठ प्रबंधन पर पक्षपात और पक्षपात का आरोप लगाया गया था। एयरलाइन को प्रतिस्थापन के लिए उपयुक्त उम्मीदवारों को नामित करने का निर्देश दिया गया है। डीजीसीए ऑडिट में पाया गया था कि पायलटों को एक सिमुलेटर पर नेविगेशन दृष्टिकोण का प्रशिक्षण दिया जा रहा था, जो प्रक्रिया के लिए प्रमाणित नहीं था। डीजीसीए ने कहा कि यह उसके नियम का उल्लंघन है और एयरलाइन को कारण बताओ नोटिस जारी किया। चूंकि प्रतिक्रिया असंतोषजनक पाई गई, इसलिए विनियामक ने अकासा एयर के निदेशक (प्रशिक्षण) और संचालन निदेशक को निलंबित करने का आदेश दिया।

इस सप्ताह अकासा एयर के खिलाफ यह दूसरी विनियामक कार्रवाई है। इससे पहले एयरलाइन पर सितंबर में बंगलुरु पुणे को उड़ान में सवार होने से इनकार करने वाले यात्रियों को मुआवजा नहीं देने के लिए डीजीसीए द्वारा 10 लाख रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया गया था।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE PIONEER

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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## 146 flights delayed so far

Flight-tracking platform Flightradar24 reported 146 delayed flights, three cancellations, and an average delay of nearly 30 minutes for departures and arrivals in Delhi. However, there were no major disruptions. "Low visibility procedures are in progress at Delhi airport. All flight operations are presently normal.

Passengers are requested to contact the airline concerned for updated flight information," read the advisory. Despite the challenges, most flights are operating on schedule, though passengers are advised to remain vigilant about their flight status. Highlighting potential delays due to rain, Air India urged

passengers to begin their airport journey early and monitor flight updates. IndiGo advised passengers to plan ahead, especially given the possibility of intermittent rain throughout the day. "We recommend checking your flight status before heading to the airport. Safe travels!" the airline stated.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

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THE PIONEER

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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## **DGCA suspends two Akasa Air directors for training lapses**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday suspended Akasa Air's Director Training, and Director Operations, for six months, for lapses in pilot training. This action follows a regulatory audit in October and comes in the wake of a complaint by Akasa Air pilots which accused the senior management of favouritism and bias.

The DGCA audit had found that pilots were being trained in navigation approaches on a simulator which was not certified for the procedure. The DGCA said this was in violation of its rule and issued a show cause notice to the airline. As the response was found to be unsatisfactory the regulator ordered the suspension of the two directors of Akasa Air.

This is the second regulatory action against Akasa Air this week. Earlier the airline was fined Rs 10 lakh by the DGCA, for not compensating passengers who were denied boarding on a Bengaluru Pune flight in September.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

28 DECEMBER 2024

## Air India to see progress on key initiatives in 2025, working towards profitability: CEO Wilson

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Air India will see progress on various key initiatives, including refitting of wide body and narrow body planes, in 2025 as well as tighten practices and processes to ultimately become profitable, the airline's chief Campbell Wilson said on Friday.

After taking over the loss-making Air India from the government in January 2022, Tata Group has been working on an ambitious transformation plan to turn around the airline, which recently also placed orders for 100 more aircraft. In his message to the staff on Friday, Wilson said 2024 saw the



realisation of some of the most significant milestones, including the completion of the mergers of Air India Express and AirAsia India, and Vistara with Air India that "position us as the fourth largest business, by revenue, in the Tata group". Air India group operates 300 aircraft across both brands, flying over 60 million customers annually to more

than 100 destinations in India and around the world. While describing 2024 as a transformative year for Air India and Indian aviation in many ways, Wilson said 2025 will see progress on many more key initiatives of the airline such as refitting wide body and remaining narrow body aircraft with new seats and services.

Further, Air India's service standards will be elevated, raising the bar on what we consider 'good', and more consistently delivering to those new expectations, he added. Refitting of narrow body aircraft has commenced while that of legacy wide body planes is expected to start in

2025. Wilson, the CEO and MD of Air India, also emphasised the airline will strengthen and tighten its practices and processes so that "we are not just consistent, we are also efficient and, ultimately, profitable". In the 2023-24 fiscal, Air India trimmed its losses to Rs 4,444.10 crore from Rs 11,387.96 crore in 2022-23. Its turnover rose 23.69 per cent to Rs 38,812 crore in the last financial year compared to the year-ago period.

Earlier this month, Air India placed an order for 100 more Airbus planes comprising 10 wide body A350s and 90 narrow body A320s. The total order books is 570.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

BANGALORE

27 DECEMBER 2024

# Flyer seeks ₹4L compensation for cancelled ticket, court rejects plea

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**Bengaluru:** “We decide on evidence, not sentiments. The commission cannot jump to a conclusion just with photocopies of the documents,” the Bangalore Urban II Additional Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission declared, while declining to come to the help of a man, who had sought for refund of fare from the Emirates for flights he had booked but did not take. The court also declined to hold Emirates guilty of deficiency of service.

The complainant, Nitin Kaushik from Moradabad, UP, had filed the complaint against Emirates, asking for refund of his ticket fare, Rs 4 lakh, for the mental harassment he went through and Rs 20,000 as litigation costs.

Kaushik had booked Emirates flight tickets for a round trip from Budapest to Delhi and back, paying Rs 73,685 through MakeMyTrip. He was to fly from Budapest on Nov 26, 2022 and return from Delhi on Jan 8, 2023. He stated that he needed to travel from Budapest on Nov 20, 2022, due to a medical emergency. Before



**The airline contended that Kaushik failed to cancel tickets on time and did not make MakeMyTrip a party to the complaint. It stated that the terms of the ticket clearly mentioned it was non-refundable in case of no-show or cancellation**

re this, he contacted the airline to reschedule the tickets. As the price was much higher, he booked a new ticket but forgot to cancel the previous one. The airline subsequently cancelled the tickets as he did not board the flight.

When Kaushik arrived at the airport on Jan 8, 2023, he discovered that his return ticket had been suspended. Emirates informed him that reactivating the ticket would require a fee of Rs 80,000 and take six hours.

Kaushik claimed he could not take the flight because of the airline’s actions, which caused him significant mental harassment and financial loss and prompted him to seek compensation by filing a complaint with consumer court in Aug 2023.

In its defence, Emirates argued that the tickets were purchased through MakeMyTrip, a third-party travel portal, and not directly with it. The airline contended that it could not be held liable as Kaushik failed to cancel the tickets on time and did not make MakeMyTrip a party to

the complaint. It stated that the terms of the ticket mentioned it was non-refundable in case of no-show or cancellation. As proof, the airline also submitted affidavits as evidence from its senior customer sales and service agent, with relevant documents.

The commission, after reviewing both sides, stated that the documents (Aadhaar card, screenshots of tax invoice, legal notice and ticket confirmation) produced by the complainant being mere photocopies, were insufficient to substantiate his claims of deficiency in service or un-

fair trade practices.

The commission observed that, as per Section 38(6) of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, every complaint must be supported by affidavit evidence and relevant documentary proof. Despite being granted ample opportunity, Kaushik failed to file any affidavit evidence.

After reviewing the submissions and evidence, the commission ruled that there was no deficiency of service or unfair trade practice on the part of Emirates airlines. The complaint was dismissed, with no orders as to costs.