



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

28 AUGUST 2026

Govt revives plan to raze slums around Mum airport

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MUMBAI: The Adani Group-led Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) could expand the Mumbai airport by 15% if the slum settlements on its periphery are cleared. While previous attempts to clear these settlements stayed grounded, there is a renewed push due to the impending demolition of Terminal-1.

Together, the land vacated by the slums and that freed up by razing the old terminal could give MIAL room to expand its operations, including runway and terminal infrastructure. It is not known whether the land will also be commercially exploited.

The land around Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) is owned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and leased to the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) and the airport operator.

Over decades, slums encroached on the AAI land, occupying 275 acres. These densely populated, multi-level informal settlements in Kurla and Santacruz have crept right up to the airport's boundary, posing serious security and flight safety challenges during aircraft landings.

While the last attempt at redeveloping the 'airport slums' was made a decade ago, preparations

are underway once more. This time, MMRDA sources say, slum residents eligible for rehabilitation will be re-housed in situ, which is likely to make them more receptive to the plan.

"We will use the model used in the redevelopment of Ramabai Nagar and Kamraj Nagar in Ghatkopar, where the slum residents were rehabilitated in situ," said an MMRDA official. A proposal is yet to be prepared for the airport slums. "Despite the previous count of slum-dwellers standing at 85,000-90,000, MMRDA will commission a fresh survey," said the official.

However, there is one significant difference between redevelopment of the airport slums and at Ramabai Nagar – restrictions

on the height of buildings near the airport. "This was not the case at Ramabai Nagar, where 11 towers of 22 storeys each are being constructed," the MMRDA official said. Once the slum-dwellers are rehabilitated, around 100 acres will be transferred to CSMIA to support future infrastructure growth.

RTI activist Anil Galgali, who has been following this issue for years, said the process must be transparent. "Last time, there was corruption in the process and the government miserably failed. This time, the authorities should ensure that they provide in-situ rehabilitation and the process is transparent. The slum residents simply cannot be displaced to other areas," he said.



The land around Mumbai airport is owned by AAI, and leased to MMRDA and the airport operator. Over decades, slums encroached on the land, occupying 275 acres. SATISH BATE/HT PHOTO

Can Chennai airport handle widebody Code F aircraft?

Officials say that the airport can handle Code F aircraft on the main runway when certain procedures are in place. Antonov An-124 Ruslan, one of the largest cargo aircraft, was received in October last year

PORT CALL

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

In the light of the Tamil Nadu government scrapping the massive second airport at Parandur, social media has been abuzz with debates on what the city could be missing out before a new airport is a reality in the future. Among them is why Chennai airport doesn't handle Code F type aircraft such as A380 (very large wingspan ranges from 65 metres - 80 metres; passenger capacity: over 500).

Officials of Airports Authority of India (AAI) clarify that while Chennai airport is classified as Code E airport the main runway can handle



Although the Chennai airport is classified as a Code E airport, there have been instances where Code F aircraft were handled. X/AACHNAIRPORT

Code F aircraft when special procedures are in place.

A Code E airport can handle long-haul, widebody aircraft such as B777 or A330. The wingspan of such aircraft range from 52 metres - 65 metres with the passenger capacity ranging from 200 to 400.

In the past, on a few occa-

sions, Chennai airport has handled Code F type aircraft but there is no passenger boarding bridge in place for such an aircraft, officials said.

For instance, in October last year, Chennai airport handled Antonov An-124 Ruslan, one of the largest cargo aircraft. In 2019, the airport received two Boeing 747-800

aircraft (Code F). Two years later, two taxiways commissioned at the airport too were suitable to handle Code F type aircraft, officials said.

"The main runway of the airport is capable of handling Code F type aircraft under Specialised Standard Operating Procedures. But we must understand that there are very few Code F type passenger aircraft. We handle several Code E type aircraft for international operations regularly. When there is a scheduled Code F type, we can certainly handle it," an official said.

Two years ago, in a meeting held with AAI, the Tamil Nadu government had urged to make Chennai airport Code F compliant for regular operations and that it would give an impetus to the State's economy.

Five caught with gold nuggets concealed in mouths at KIA

Seizures worth
Rs 66L in two cases

BENGALURU, DHNS

Five passengers flying into Bengaluru from the UAE were caught at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) with gold concealed in their mouths between August 25 and 26, officials said.

Four passengers arrived from Abu Dhabi on Etihad flight EY238 on August 25, while another arrived from Dubai the following day.

The four passengers from Abu Dhabi were each carrying around 60 grams of gold nuggets concealed in their mouths. They were intercepted at Terminal 2 based on profiling, with no prior intelligence from any agency, a senior customs official said.



Screengrab from a CISF video, on Facebook, showing the suspect with the gold nuggets. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Besides gold, the passengers were also carrying cigarettes, refurbished electronic items and five to six mobile phones. The total value of the goods seized was around Rs 66 lakh, the official said.

"While such cases are not common at the Bengaluru airport, we have noticed a slight

increase in gold smuggling cases lately. The amount of gold being smuggled is very little," he said.

In another case on August 26, two capsules containing around 82 grams of gold were found concealed in a passenger's mouth during security checks at Terminal 1.

The passenger, identified as Mohammed Siraj, an Indian national, had arrived from Dubai and was scheduled to take a connecting flight to Ghaziabad.

According to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), an official became suspicious when Siraj did not respond appropriately to questions during screening. He was subjected to further examination, during which the two capsules were found concealed in his mouth.

Siraj was handed over to the police for further legal action.



Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

28 AUGUST 2026



How Parandur airport was conceived and why it was scrapped?

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on August 24 announced scrapping of the proposed greenfield airport for Chennai at Parandur, Kanchipuram district, a project conceived by the previous DMK regime. But Vijay, who fulfilled the promise made to the villagers of Ekanapuram in 2025 and was voted to power, said his government recognised the need for a second airport for Chennai. ETB Sivapriyan explains the decision.

How old is the proposal to have a second airport for Chennai?

The proposal dates back to 1999, but initially things did not move as planned. In 2006, the DMK government chose Sriperumbudur as the site, but later backed out due to stiff opposition from PMK, a key ally. After years of delay, the AIADMK government in 2019 revived the project and asked the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to study four locations: Parandur, Pannur, Padalam and Thiruporur for feasibility. The AAI rejected Padalam and Thiruporur for security concerns and opted for any of the other two sites.

How Parandur was chosen?

The DMK government under Chief Minister MK Stalin in August 2022 chose Parandur as the proposed site for which 5,746 acres of land across 13 revenue villages were identified for acquisition. Parandur was also chosen because of its geographical location - the nearest railway station is about 8 km in Thirumalpur and the new Chennai-Bengaluru Expressway is just a few km away. The airport was planned to have two runways, a dedicated cargo village and an Aerocity. The plan, however, needed razing of about 1,000 houses and relocation of people.

Why villagers plunged into protest?

Villagers of Parandur, Ekanapuram and Nagapattu opposed the project as fertile farm lands were to be acquired. The protests in Ekanapuram turned intense after it emerged that the village will be the runway site. This village alone would have lost all 605 houses and 900 acres of land, forcing people to protest against the airport for 1,200 days. Besides refusing to part with their lands, the villagers also raised several environmental concerns. The government's offer of 3.5 times more compensation than the market rate, job for one person in a family, and a new house did not cut ice.

What was TVK's stand?

TVK was less than a year-old when Vijay declared his support for the villagers. In January 2025, Vijay went to Ekanapuram to meet with the villagers and announced that the Parandur project will be scrapped if his party comes to power in 2026. However, he maintained that he is opposed to the site, not to the project.

What now happens to the greenfield airport proposal?

Tamil Nadu will now seek the assistance of the AAI in identifying sites for building of a greenfield airport near Chennai, while expanding the capacity of the existing one.

What is the industry's view?

Industry bodies say Chennai not merely needs a second airport, but even the existing airport should be modernised and expanded till the new one is ready in about a decade. The need for an airport should not be seen merely from the perspective of passenger traffic but also freight, since Chennai has grown into a hub for industries like automobiles, electronics, and semi-conductor.

What was the project's status before it was scrapped?

The DMK government received the in-principle approval in March 2025 and began acquiring land in July. About 1,700 acres of land from private individuals were acquired. The compensation ranged from Rs 35 lakh to Rs 1.10 crore per acre. The government owns about 1,900 acres in the region, and about 47% of land acquisition was complete as of July 2026.



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THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

More than 4% dip in passenger traffic at airports across India in July: Data

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

THE overall number of flyers, both domestic and international, across the country has gone down by over 4.5% in July 2026 compared to the same period last year, states the Airports Authority of India (AAI). Freight traffic though has shot up by nearly 11%.

AAI on Friday made public the Air Traffic Report for July. A total of 2.43 crore people travelled within India in July this year as compared to 2.55 crore passengers in July 2025. This marks a dip in patronage by 4.7% across India. Delhi is the only airport among the major airports to have shown positive domestic growth.

The international dip is also somewhat similar, with respect to the percentage. A total of 63.3 lakh flyers travelled abroad last month when compared to 66.3 lakh flyers, marking a decline by about 4.6%. The data for the ongoing financial year from April to July 2026 shows a decrease of 1.6% in passengers, from 10.48 crore flyers now, when compared to 10.64 from April to July 2025.

Only Bengaluru (a 5.5% in-

OVERALL DOMESTIC PASSENGERS ACROSS INDIA

-4.74%

July 2026:
2,43,00,897

June 2026:
2,55,08,832

July 2026:
63,31,680

June 2026:
66,36,457

OVERALL INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS ACROSS INDIA

-4.59%

Source: AAI

crease), Delhi (4%), Hyderabad (0.4%), Mangaluru (8.5%), and Nasik have shown an increase in passenger traffic in July out of the 52 airports which have international operations in the country. The rest of the airports have recorded a reduced patronage, with a substantial

decrease over the previous year, recorded by Madurai, Surat, Tiruchirappalli, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Jaipur and Nagpur airports.

Among domestic airports, patronage in Ayodhya has declined by a whopping 45.7% in July 2026 when compared to July 2025 (1,24,579 passengers versus 1,40,592 passengers).

Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is the only among major airports to record an increase in flyers by about 3.5%. It had 43,16,285 passengers in July 2026 as against 41,68,711 in July 2025.

The other leading ones have shown negative growth. Bengaluru airport has shown a 5% decline (27,23,911 vs 28,66,480 flyers); Hyderabad showed a massive 12% dip in patronage (17,43,5554 vs 19,80,692 flyers) while Mumbai slipped by 14.6% (2614261 vs 3062130 flyers) and Chennai fell by 14% (11,63,893 vs 13,54,143 flyers).

Rajkot, Thiruvananthapuram, Bagdogra, Kochi, Chandigarh, Pune, Shillong, Begumpet, Adampur (Jalandhar) are among the few airports which have recorded a positive growth on the domestic front.



Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

लैंडिंग के वक्त फटा टायर, यात्री सुरक्षित



रायपुर। छत्तीसगढ़ में बिलासपुर में दिल्ली से आए अलायंस एयर के विमान का एक टायर लैंडिंग के दौरान फट गया। विमान रनवे पर कुछ कुछ दूरी तक घिसटता रहा, लेकिन पायलट की सुझबुझ से सुरक्षित रोक लिया। हालाँकि इस दौरान सभी 41 यात्रियों की सांसें अटक रही। एजेंसी



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

28 AUGUST 2026

Centre moves to de-risk aircraft leasing, financing

Rohit Vaid
New Delhi

As India prepares to induct more than 2,000 aircraft over the next decade, the Centre has begun an exercise to de-risk aircraft leasing and financing for international lessors and financiers by examining taxation, import and re-export rules, bankruptcy-remote financing structures and protection of lessors' interests.

The aim of the exercise is to reduce financing risks for lessors as well as financiers, which could lower costs for airlines and potentially

translate into lower airfares for passengers.

A high-level committee, constituted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), is examining measures to strengthen the aircraft leasing and financing ecosystem, including alternative financing mechanisms at GIFT IFSC. The committee is assessing existing aircraft financing and leasing arrangements between foreign entities and Indian airline operators.

It is examining regulatory and procedural issues relating to direct and indirect taxation, duties and import and re-export provisions, with

The aim of the exercise is to reduce financing risks for lessors as well as financiers

the objective of enhancing India's attractiveness as a destination for aircraft leasing and financing, including at GIFT IFSC.

Besides, the committee is examining the feasibility of enabling bankruptcy-remote financing structures within the Indian framework.

The objective is to ensure ring-fencing of cash flows for lenders and facilitate effective

enforcement of security interests, according to the order.

GREATER PROTECTION

In simple terms, such structures can provide greater protection to lenders and lessors if an airline faces financial distress, potentially making aircraft financing less risky.

Furthermore, the committee is reviewing the implementation of the Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Act and assessing its impact on lessors and the overall aircraft leasing ecosystem.

The Act was highlighted

by the MoCA as a key reform aligning India's legal framework with the Cape Town Convention. It is also recommending measures to address gaps or challenges arising from implementation of the legislation.

Additionally, the committee is examining alternative financing mechanisms within GIFT IFSC, including the possible establishment of dedicated funds or infrastructure financing frameworks for aircraft leasing.

It is assessing the potential benefits of such mechanisms for lessors and the broader aircraft leasing ecosystem, along with the en-

abling conditions required, including the possible inclusion of aircraft in the Harmonised Master List of Infrastructure.

GLOBAL HUB

The exercise comes as the government seeks to strengthen GIFT IFSC as a global hub for aircraft leasing and aviation finance.

At the India Aircraft Leasing and Financing Summit 2.0 in May, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) focused on strengthening GIFT IFSC's role as an emerging global hub.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

28 AUGUST 2026

‘Singapore Airlines will carefully consider funding requests from Air India’

Our Bureau
Mumbai

Singapore Airlines will carefully consider any requests for additional capital from Air India, the carrier said on Thursday as it faced questions from a local Member of Parliament over its investment strategy.

Singapore Airlines holds 25.1 per cent stake in Air India and its investment has come under scrutiny following the widening of losses in the Indian carrier.

While shareholders grilled the airline management over Air India's performance, opposition lawmaker Kenneth Tiong has said that Singapore Airlines should not seek funding from Temasek to invest further in Air India.

MAJORITY STAKES

Temasek, which is a Singapore government-owned investment firm, is a majority shareholder in Singapore Airlines. In a statement on Thursday, Singapore Airlines said its board will carefully consider any requests for ad-

ditional capital from Air India, considering the group's other capital requirements and Air India's business strategy.

LAWMAKER PRESSURE

Singapore Airlines said its capital allocation follows a disciplined evaluation process that considers its operating cash flow and investment requirements in new aircraft, as well as multi-hub investments such as Air India.

Tiong raised concerns as Air India is seeking \$1.5 billion in fresh equity from Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines.

The demand for fresh funding comes as the airline posted an over ₹22,000 crore loss in FY26.

"No one, least of all Singaporeans, owes Air India a living. I will not support, nor expect, any future use of Temasek's funds to prop up Air India via Singapore Airlines. If Singapore Airlines wants to continue its bet on Air India, it should do so on its own two feet, and not on Temasek," Tiong said in a social media post.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

IndiGo announces investment in Sarvam, steps up AI focus

Aneesh Phadnis
Mumbai

IndiGo has announced investment in Sarvam AI as part of its broader strategy to use AI-led technologies for improved customer experience and innovation.

The investment was made through IndiGo Ventures, the airline's venture capital arm, that has previously invested in aerospace manufacturing and urban mobility start-ups.

IndiGo Venture's investment is a part of Sarvam's Series B funding in which the Bengaluru-based AI start-up raised around ₹698 crore from various investors. IndiGo Venture's committed around ₹30 crore, according to Sarvam's filing.

In a statement, IndiGo



said the investment builds on the existing relationship between the two companies.

WORKFORCE

"Artificial Intelligence is fast becoming a foundational capability for the aviation industry, reshaping customer experience, workforce productivity and operational decision-making. Our partnership with Sarvam gives IndiGo access to cutting-edge AI capabilities, built in India, and tailored to the needs of the market. By combining these technologies with our operational ex-

pertise and scale, we can accelerate innovation while maximising value for our customers, employees, and other stakeholders," Neetan Chopra, Chief Digital and Information Officer, IndiGo, said.

"IndiGo brings the domain depth and scale needed to identify where AI can create real value. Together, we can develop systems that are useful in production and build a stronger template for enterprise AI in India," said Pratyush Kumar, Co-founder, Sarvam AI.

IndiGo and Sarvam will continue to develop and evaluate applications across customer experience, employee productivity and airline operations, with the ability to expand successful use cases across the airline's network, the airline said.



Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

IndiGo Ventures invests in AI company Sarvam

IndiGo Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of IndiGo, on Friday said it has invested in artificial intelligence (AI) company Sarvam as part of its Series-B funding round. The investment amount was not disclosed. IndiGo and Sarvam are already working together on AI applications for customer service, employee productivity and airline operations. The companies will continue to develop and test these applications, with successful use cases potentially expanded across IndiGo's network.



OUR BUREAU

इंडिगो वेंचर्स ने एआई कंपनी सर्वम में किया निवेश

मशहूर विमानन कंपनी इंडिगो की कॉर्पोरेट वेंचर कैपिटल इकाई इंडिगो वेंचर्स ने शुक्रवार को बताया कि उसने आर्टिफिशल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) कंपनी सर्वम में निवेश किया है। यह निवेश कंपनी के सीरीज-बी फंडिंग चरण के तहत किया गया है। हालांकि, निवेश की राशि का खुलासा नहीं किया गया है।

इंडिगो और सर्वम पहले से ही ग्राहक सेवा, कर्मचारियों की उत्पादकता और विमानन कंपनी के संचालन से जुड़े एआई ऐप्लिकेशन पर साथ काम कर रही हैं। दोनों कंपनियां इन ऐप्लिकेशन को तैयार करने के साथ ही उनका परीक्षण जारी रखेंगी। सफल साबित होने वाले एआई समाधानों को इंडिगो के

पूरे नेटवर्क में लागू किया जा सकता है। यह निवेश इंडिगो वेंचर्स का सार्वजनिक रूप से घोषित चौथा निवेश है। जुलाई 2025 में इसका पहला निवेश एरोस्पेस विनिर्माण कंपनी जेह एरोस्पेस में हुआ था। इस निवेश की राशि भी सार्वजनिक नहीं की गई थी।

जनवरी 2026 में इंडिगो वेंचर्स ने ट्रैवल एक्सेसरीज कंपनी एस्केप प्लान के 25 करोड़ डॉलर की सीरीज-ए फंडिंग के चरण में हिस्सा लिया था। इस चरण की अगुआई जंगल वेंचर्स ने की थी। इसी महीने इंडिगो वेंचर्स ने बेंगलूरु की सरला एविेशन में 10 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश किया था। सरला एविेशन एयर-टैक्सी सेवाओं के लिए इलेक्ट्रिक वर्टिकल टेक-ऑफ एंड लैंडिंग (ईवीटीओएल) विमान तैयार कर रही है। इंडिगो वेंचर्स को 2024 में सेबी से वैकल्पिक निवेश फंड (एआईएफ) स्थापित करने की मंजूरी मिली थी।

बीएस

Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

28 AUGUST 2026

DGCA to probe Kanpur crash killing

**DC CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs
KANPUR, AUG 27**

A trainee pilot and an instructor were killed on Thursday when a twin-engine training aircraft crashed near the Ganga in Kanpur, with a three-member DGCA team set to probe whether a technical or human error caused the accident, officials said.

The Tecnam P2006T aircraft, operated by Garg Aviation, took off from Kanpur Civil Airport around 11.30 am and crashed about 20 minutes



later near Nathapurwa village in the Katri area along the Ganga, Police Commissioner Raghuvir Lal told PTI. The deceased were identified as instructor Sachin Bhatia, from Gujarat, and trainee pilot Abhishek Pujari, from Karnataka.

Wreckage of a four-seater, dual-engine Tecnam aircraft following a fatal crash on the outskirts of the Natthapurwa village near the Ganga Barrage, in Kanpur.

— PTI

Bhatia had around 3,000 hours of flying experience, Lal said. The Ministry of Civil Aviation said the probe agency, AAIB, will investigate the crash and a team of three officials from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will

be visiting the crash site for necessary regulatory oversight and coordination.

The ministry said the aircraft, bearing registration VT-NBV, met with an accident approximately five nautical miles from Kanpur Civil Airport near Ganga Barrage. Citing preliminary information, the ministry said the Tecnam P2006T was on a training flight in the local flying area of Kanpur Civil Airport and had two people on board. "Both sustained fatal injuries in the accident," the ministry said.

छत्तीसगढ़ में लैंडिंग के दौरान विमान का टायर फटा, पायलट की सूझबूझ से यात्री सुरक्षित

नईदुनिया प्रतिनिधि, बिलासपुर: छत्तीसगढ़ के चकरभाठा स्थित बिलासा देवी केवट एयरपोर्ट पर लैंडिंग के समय एलायंस एयर (देश का एकमात्र सरकारी एयरलाइंस) के विमान का बायां टायर फट गया और उसमें चिंगारी निकलने लगी। एलायंस एयर का विमान 91-613 (बीटी-यूडीए) शुक्रवार दोपहर दिल्ली से बिलासपुर पहुंचा था। विमान रनवे पर कुछ दूरी तक घिसटता रहा, लेकिन पायलट की सूझबूझ से विमान रनवे पर रुक गया व सभी 37 यात्री और चार क्रू मेंबर बाल-बाल बच गए। मामले का तकनीकी जांच शुरू की गई।

तकनीकी खराबी के चलते एलायंस एयर प्रबंधन ने बिलासपुर से आगे प्रयागराज तक जाने वाली संबंधित कनेक्टिंग फ्लाइट को तत्काल प्रभाव से रद्द कर दिया। लैंडिंग के दौरान टायर पंचर होना जोखिम भरा माना जाता है। तेज गति के कारण विमान के अनियंत्रित होकर रनवे से फिसलने का खतरा बना रहता है।

आखिर कैसे फटा टायर, इसकी



छत्तीसगढ़ के बिलासपुर एयरपोर्ट पर लैंडिंग के दौरान फटा एलायंस एयर विमान का टायर • एनएआई

होगी जांच: नई दिल्ली के जागरण संवाददाता के अनुसार, डीजीसीए और एलायंस एयर की तकनीकी टीम ने जांच शुरू कर दी है। यह पता लगाया जा रहा है कि क्या रनवे पर कोई धातु का टुकड़ा, गिट्टी या बाहरी वस्तु पड़ी थी, जिससे टकराकर टायर कटा। यह भी पता लगाया जा रहा है कि लैंडिंग के समय टायर में नाइट्रोजन गैस का दबाव मानक स्तर पर था या नहीं और टायर की घिसावट की सीमा क्या थी। फ्लाइट डेटा रिकॉर्ड से

- दिल्ली से बिलासपुर गई थी एलायंस एयर की फ्लाइट, रनवे पर सुरक्षित उतारे गए 37 यात्री व चार क्रू मेंबर
- डीजीसीए ने घटना की जांच के लिए आदेश, एलायंस एयर भी अपने स्तर पर कर रही पड़ताल

यह जांचा जाएगा कि लैंडिंग 'हार्ड' तो नहीं थी और ब्रेक का दबाव कितना था। रिपोर्ट से ही स्पष्ट होगा कि तकनीकी खराबी थी या रनवे की स्थिति के कारण हादसा हुआ।

एलायंस एयर का मुख्य उद्देश्य केंद्र सरकार की 'उड़ान' योजना के तहत देश के छोटे-छोटे शहरों (बिलासपुर, शिमला, कुल्लू आदि) को बड़े मेट्रो शहरों से हवाई मार्ग द्वारा जोड़ना है। इसके बड़े में मुख्यतः छोटे एटीआर व डोर्नियर विमान हैं।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

विमान हादसे में मानवीय चूक या तकनीकी खामी, जांच जारी

जगरण संवाददाता, कानपुर: उड़ान भरने के 20 मिनट बाद हवा में दो बार घूमकर प्रशिक्षण विमान गिरने से प्रशिक्षक व प्रशिक्षु पायलट की मौत के मामले में शुक्रवार को डायरेक्ट्रेट जनरल आफ सिविल एविएशन (डीजीसीए) लखनऊ व दिल्ली की टीम के साथ एयरक्राफ्ट इन्वेस्टिगेशन ब्यूरो (एएआईबी) की तीन टीमों ने सात घंटे जांच की। दोपहर 12 बजे पहुंची टीमों ने शाम सात बजे तक मौके से साक्ष्य जुटाए। मलबे से विमान के इंजन को निकाल कर उसका टुकड़ा भी

काटा। घटनास्थल की फीते से नापजोख की। हादसे में मानवीय चूक हुई या तकनीकी गड़बड़ी, टीमों इसकी जांच कर रही हैं। अब टीम शनिवार को जांच करने को सुबह नौ बजे फिर मौके पर पहुंचेगी। जांच टीमों ने हादसे के प्रथम दृष्टया कारण पर भी कुछ बोलने से इन्कार किया। कहा कि विस्तृत जांच की जा रही है।

गर्ग एविएशन का चार सीटर प्रशिक्षण विमान गुरुवार सुबह गंगा बैराज के तीन किमी आगे उन्नाव की ओर दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया था।

उसमें सवार प्रशिक्षक पायलट कैप्टन सचिन भाटिया व प्रशिक्षु पायलट अभिषेक पुजारी की मौत हो गई थी। शुक्रवार को तीनों टीमों ने विमान को उतारने के समय प्रयोग किए जाने वाले प्रोपेलर (पंखों) की जांच की। विमान से इंजन अलग कर सील किया है। एक बड़े डिब्बे में इंजन रखकर जांच के लिए टीम अपने साथ ले गई है। इसके पहले डीजीसीए की टीम शुक्रवार सुबह गर्ग एविएशन फ्लाईंग क्लब पहुंची। विमान मरम्मत के कर्मजात सील कर टीम ने अपने पास रख लिए।

कानपुर में विमान हादसा मानवीय चूक या तकनीकी गड़बड़ी, तीन टीमों ने सात घंटे तक की पड़ताल

जगरण संवाददाता, कानपुर

कानपुर में उड़ान भरने के 20 मिनट बाद हवा में दो बार घूमकर प्रशिक्षण विमान गिरने से प्रशिक्षक व प्रशिक्षु पायलट की मौत के मामले में शुक्रवार को नागर विमानन निदेशालय (डीजीसीए) लखनऊ व दिल्ली की टीम के साथ एयरक्राफ्ट एक्सिडेंटल इन्वेस्टिगेशन ब्यूरो (एआइबी) की टीमों ने सात घंटे जांच-पड़ताल की। दोपहर 12 बजे पहुंची टीमों ने शाम सात बजे तक मौके से साक्ष्य जुटाए। मलबे से विमान के इंजन को निकाल कर उसका टुकड़ा भी काटा। टीमों जांच कर रही हैं कि हादसे का कारण मानवीय चूक रही या तकनीकी गड़बड़ी। अब टीम शनिवार सुबह नौ बजे फिर मौके पर पहुंचेगी। टीम में शामिल अधिकारियों ने कहा कि फ्लाइट रिकार्डर से हादसे का कारण अधिक स्पष्ट तौर पर पता चलेगा।

डीजीसीए लखनऊ-दिल्ली व एआइबी की टीम जांच में जुटी, इंजन को निकाल कटर से काटा टुकड़ा



घटनास्थल की जांच करते डीजीसीए व एआइबी की टीम के सदस्य। जगरण

गर्ग एविएशन का चार सीटर प्रशिक्षण विमान गुरुवार सुबह गंगा बैराज के तीन किमी आगे उन्नाव की ओर दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया था। उसमें सवार प्रशिक्षक पायलट कैप्टन सचिन भाटिया व प्रशिक्षु पायलट अभिषेक पुजारी की मौत हो गई थी। शुक्रवार को तीनों टीमों ने विमान को

उतारने के समय प्रयोग किए जाने वाले प्रोपेलर (पंखों) की जांच की। विमान से इंजन अलग कर सील किया है। इंजन को जांच के लिए टीम ले गई है।

इसके पहले डीजीसीए की टीम शुक्रवार सुबह गर्ग एविएशन फ्लाईंग क्लब पहुंची। विमान मरम्मत के कागजात टीम ने अपने पास रख लिए। प्रशिक्षक व प्रशिक्षु का रिकार्ड भी लिया। प्रशिक्षण विमान 11:15 बजे उड़ा था। टीम ने अन्य पायलटों व प्रशिक्षुओं समेत कई लोगों के बयान लिए।

अभिषेक के पिता बोले- वेटे को पायलट बनने का सपना रह गया अधूरा : महाराष्ट्र में पनवेल निवासी अभिषेक के पिता प्रभाकर राजू पुजारी ने पोस्टमार्टम हाउस में बेटे का शव देखते ही कहा कि उसे पायलट बनाने का सपना अधूरा रह गया। सोचा था कि जब वह कमर्शियल फ्लाइट उड़ाएगा तो उसमें बैटूंगा। अब उसका शव लेकर जाएंगे।

Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

IndiGo Ventures to invest in Sarvam AI

FE BUREAU
Bengaluru, August 28

NEWLY MINTED AI unicorn Sarvam is set to raise an undisclosed amount in its ongoing Series B funding from IndiGo Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of IndiGo Airlines announced on Friday. Earlier this month, the full-stack sovereign AI startup had secured \$75 million from AI chipmaking giant Nvidia and Glade Brook Capital, signalling growing investor interest and adoption push from across sectors.

"Aviation is a powerful setting for enterprise AI because it combines millions of customer interactions with complex, time-sensitive operations. IndiGo brings the domain depth and scale needed to identify where AI can create real value. Together, we can develop systems that are useful in production and build a stronger template for enterprise AI in India," Pratyush Kumar, co-founder of Sarvam, said in a statement.

The investment is an extension of a dynamic that already existed. IndiGo and Sarvam were working together to build AI applications to improve customer experience, streamline operational workflows and boost employee productivity levels. "The investment creates a long-term platform for accelerating AI-led innovation and operational excellence at IndiGo," the statement noted.

"Artificial intelligence is fast becoming a foundational capa-

AI FOR AVIATION



■ Earlier this month, Sarvam AI raised

\$75 million

from Nvidia and Glade Brook Capital

■ In June, it announced a

\$234-million

funding led by HCLTech

■ With the current Series B round, Sarvam will have raised a total of more than

\$350 million

bility for the aviation industry, reshaping customer experience, workforce productivity and operational decision-making. Our partnership with Sarvam gives IndiGo access to cutting-edge AI capabilities, built in India, and tailored to the needs of the market," said Neetan Chopra, chief digital and information officer, IndiGo. Sarvam has unveiled plans to build a trillion-parameter AI model and is racing to fulfil that promise within the next few months.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

28 AUGUST 2026

Will consider AI's biz strategy, other factors before deciding on addl fund requests: SA

PTI

NEW DELHI

Singapore Airlines stated on Thursday that its board will carefully consider any requests for additional capital from Air India after taking into consideration the group's other capital requirements as well as the Indian carrier's business strategy.

The comments from



Singapore Airlines come against the backdrop of the loss-making Air India seeking additional funds of \$1.5 billion from its co-owners -- Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines. Besides, a Singapore parliamentarian has raised concerns about Singapore

Airlines providing more funding for Air India.

In Air India, which was acquired by the Tata Group in January 2022, Singapore Airlines currently holds a 25.1% stake.

Singapore Airlines stated that as a significant minority shareholder, it works with Tata Sons to support Air India's transformation programme.

CRASH | Investigation launched into fatal accident

Kanpur Plane Crash: Sudden Blast, Pilot and Trainee Killed

UP State Bureau
KANPUR

A tragic aviation accident in Kanpur on Thursday claimed the lives of a flying instructor and a trainee pilot after a training aircraft crashed in a field near Natthupurwa village, close to the Ganga Barrage. The aircraft, operated by Garg Aviation, had taken off from the company's flying training centre at around 11:30 am. It crashed nearly 20 minutes later, triggering panic among nearby residents.

The deceased were identified as flying instructor Sachin Bhatia, a resident of Gujarat, and trainee pilot Abhishek Pujari from Karnataka. Both were on board the twin-engine training aircraft when it went down. Emergency teams, police and local officials rushed to the crash site after receiving information and secured the area.

Eyewitnesses reportedly heard a loud sound or blast



Aircraft crashes 20 minutes after take-off near Ganga Barrage

shortly before the aircraft crashed. Some accounts suggested that the aircraft was flying at a low altitude and appeared unstable before plunging into the field. However, authorities have not confirmed that an explosion caused the crash. The exact

sequence of events and technical reason behind the accident will be determined through a formal investigation.

The aircraft was reportedly returning towards the training centre when the accident occurred. Wreckage was scattered at the crash site, while officials began collecting evidence and examining the aircraft. The bodies were recovered and sent for post-mortem examination.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has been



informed about the accident. Investigators are expected to examine the aircraft's maintenance records, airworthiness documents, flight data, weather conditions, pilot experience and other operational factors. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will also investigate the circumstances leading to the crash.

The accident has raised fresh concerns about aviation safety in Kanpur. It comes around two months after

another incident involving a Garg Aviation training aircraft. On June 26, a trainee woman pilot was seriously injured after reportedly coming into contact with a moving propeller while disembarking following a training flight.

Garg Aviation has maintained that there were no known maintenance-related deficiencies with the aircraft involved in Thursday's crash. Officials, however, will await the findings of the technical investigation before reaching any conclusion.

The fatal accident has left the aviation training community and the families of the two pilots in shock. As investigators begin reconstructing the aircraft's final moments, questions remain over what caused the sudden loss of control and whether the reported loud sound had any connection with the crash. A definitive answer is expected only after the completion of the official probe.



Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

बिलासपुर में लैंडिंग के दौरान विमान का टायर फटा

बिलासपुर, एजेंसी। दिल्ली से बिलासपुर जा रहे एक विमान का टायर शुक्रवार को बिलासपुर हवाई अड्डे पर उतरते समय फट गया। विमान में सवार सभी 41 लोगों को सुरक्षित बाहर निकाल लिया गया।

एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि यह घटना दिन में 11 बजे अलायंस एयर को उड़ान संख्या 9आई613 के हवाई अड्डे पर उतरते समय हुई। इसमें 37 यात्री और चालक दल के चार सदस्य सवार थे। उन्होंने बताया कि लैंडिंग के समय विमान के बाई ओर का टायर पंचर हो गया। घटना के बाद सभी यात्रियों व चालक दल सदस्यों को सुरक्षित बाहर निकाला गया। इसके बाद बिलासपुर से आगे जाने वाली उड़ान को रद्द कर दिया गया।

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Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

{ **MY INDIA** } IN BILASPUR

Alliance Air aircraft's tyre bursts while landing; all safe



A Bilaspur-bound Alliance Air flight from Delhi suffered a tyre burst during landing at the airport in Chhattisgarh on Friday, but all 41 people on board were safely evacuated, officials said. The flight was carrying 37 passengers and four crew members when the incident occurred at around 11 am, an official said. The left-side tyre suffered a puncture as the flight landed. All passengers and crew members were evacuated and taken to the terminal building, said the official. The airline cancelled the flight scheduled to operate onward from Bilaspur.

HTC



Corporate Communications Directorate

LOKSATYA

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

इंडिगो वेंचर्स का सर्वम में निवेश

नई दिल्ली, लोकसत्या। प्रमुख विमान सेवा कंपनी इंडिगो की कॉर्पोरेट वेंचर कैपिटल शाखा इंडिगो वेंचर्स ने विमानन क्षेत्र में आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) के इस्तेमाल को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एआई कंपनी सर्वम में निवेश किया है। कंपनी के अनुसार, यह निवेश सर्वम के सीरीज-बी फंडिंग राउंड के तहत किया गया है। इससे इंडिगो और सर्वम के बीच पहले से जारी साझेदारी को और मजबूती मिलेगी। दोनों कंपनियां एआई तकनीक के जरिए एयरलाइन में ग्राहक अनुभव बेहतर करने, कर्मचारियों की कार्यक्षमता बढ़ाने और जटिल परिचालन प्रक्रियाओं को आसान बनाने पर काम कर रही हैं। इंडिगो के मुख्य डिजिटल एवं सूचना अधिकारी नीतन चोपड़ा ने कहा कि एआई तेजी से विमानन उद्योग की महत्वपूर्ण क्षमता बनता जा रहा है। यह ग्राहक अनुभव, कर्मचारियों की उत्पादकता और परिचालन संबंधी निर्णय लेने की प्रक्रिया में बदलाव ला रहा है। सर्वम के साथ साझेदारी से इंडिगो को भारत में विकसित और बाजार की जरूरतों के अनुरूप तैयार एआई क्षमताओं तक पहुंच मिलेगी।



Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

IndiGo Ventures to invest in Sarvam to boost aviation AI

IndiGo Ventures, the venture capital arm of India's largest airline, IndiGo, on Friday said it will invest in artificial intelligence (AI) company Sarvam. Financial details were not disclosed. "The investment creates a long-term platform for accelerating AI-led innovation and operational excellence at IndiGo," a statement said.

PTI



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026



AIR SCARE

Airplane from Delhi suffers tyre burst

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ New Delhi/Raipur

IN a minor scare for 41 people, including five crew members, aboard an Alliance Air flight from New Delhi to Bilaspur, a tyre burst during landing at Bilaspur airport in Chhattisgarh on Friday afternoon. The pilots brought the aircraft to a controlled halt on the runway, and all passengers were deplaned safely.

Flight 91-613 (VT-UDA) took off from the Indira Gandhi International Airport at 11.11 am and was landing at Bilaspur airport at 1.22 pm when the tyre on the aircraft's left-hand side burst.

Airport director N Biren Singh told this newspaper, "All 41 people on board—comprising 37 passengers and 4 crew members—escaped unhurt and were safely shifted. The tyre on the left side of the landing gear had burst." This caused a puncture during the touchdown. "Following the tyre puncture, the pilots brought the aircraft to a safe and controlled halt on the runway. Ground support and airport personnel shifted all passengers and crew onto the runway and escorted them safely to the terminal building," the officer added.

Singh added, "Since aircraft landing gear tyres bear immense friction, pressure, and high-speed load during touchdown, any structural damage necessitates a comprehensive technical and safety inspection before clearance. Consequently, the airline cancelled the aircraft's scheduled onwards flight out of Bilaspur to Delhi via Prayagraj." This would facilitate maintenance checks and tyre replacement.

Confirming the incident, Alliance Air, in a statement, said, "While landing, there was an occurrence of a wheel burst of the main wheels on the left-hand side. There were no injuries." The same aircraft had operated on the Delhi-Kullu-Delhi route safely in the morning. "A team of engineers will ascertain the reasons for the occurrence," they added.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

IndiGo to invest in Sarvam to boost AI use in aviation



IndiGo Ventures, the venture capital arm of the country's largest airline IndiGo, on Friday said it will invest in AI company Sarvam. Financial details were not disclosed. "The investment builds on the existing relationship between IndiGo and Sarvam who have been working together to enhance customer experience, empower employees and streamline complex operational workflows across the airline through Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies. "The investment creates a long-term platform for accelerating AI-led innovation and operational excellence at IndiGo," a statement said. Sarvam is the country's full-stack sovereign AI company and IndiGo Ventures will pump in the money as part of Series B funding round.

(PTI)



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

28 AUGUST 2026

Singapore Airlines to 'consider' Air India plea

New Delhi: Singapore Airlines on Thursday said its board will carefully consider any requests from Air India for additional capital after taking into consideration the group's other capital requirements as well as the Indian carrier's business strategy.

The comments from Singapore Airlines come against the backdrop of the loss-making Air India seeking additional funds of \$1.5 billion from its co-owners — Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines.

Besides, a Singapore Parliamentarian has raised concerns about Singapore Airlines providing more funding for Air India.

Singapore Airlines (SIA)



TURBULENT TIMES

currently holds a 25.1 per cent stake in Air India. It said that as a significant minority shareholder, it works with Tata Sons to support Air India's transformation programme.

"SIA's board will carefully consider any requests for additional capital from Air India, taking into consideration the group's other capital requirements," an SIA spokesperson

told PTI in a statement.

"Air India has asked its owners for another \$1.5 billion. Singapore Airlines owns about a quarter of it, and Temasek owns most of Singapore Airlines, so this is not only a question for private shareholders. Whichever of the two writes the cheque, it will have a significant impact on Temasek," Singapore MP Kenneth Tjong Boon Kiat said in a Facebook post. Temasek is the sovereign wealth fund of Singapore.

"No one, least of all Singaporeans, owes Air India a living. I will not support, nor expect, any future use of Temasek's funds to prop up Air India via Singapore Airlines," he said. Reuters

Will carefully consider AI's capital request: SIA

Says Will Look Into Group's Other Capital Requirements And AI's Business Strategy

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New Delhi: Singapore Airlines (SIA), which holds 25.1% stake in Air India (AI), Thursday said it will "carefully consider any requests for additional capital from AI, taking into consideration the group's other capital requirements and AI's business strategy." A SIA spokesperson said the airline will "work with Tata Sons to support AI's transformation programme as a significant minority shareholder," says an SIA spokesperson.

SIA made its stand clear after a Singapore opposition MP Kenneth Tiong opposed using state investor Temasek's funds to meet AI request for more fund infusion from its twin promoters. Since Temasek owns most of SIA, the opposition Workers' Party legislator said in a social media post Wednesday AI's request was "not only a question for private shareholders."

"AI has asked its owners for another \$1.5 billion.... No one, least of all Singaporeans, owes Air India a living. I will not support, nor expect, any future use of Temasek's funds to prop up AI via SIA. If SIA wants to continue its bet on AI, it should do so on its own two feet, and not on Temasek's," Tiong said on his social media post.

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> The airline will "work with Tata Sons to support AI's transformation programme as a significant minority shareholder," says an SIA spokesperson



> A Singapore MP opposed using state investor Temasek's funds to meet AI's request for more fund infusion from its twin promoters

> AI has sought \$1.5 billion infusion from its shareholders

“SIA Group's capital allocation follows a disciplined evaluation process that considers its operating cash flow, investment requirements in new aircraft and products as well as multi-hub investments, such as Air India, to support sustainable long-term growth and returns, adds SIA spokesperson

"Tata Sons' chairman has said the turnaround could take up to a decade... That same chairman steps down in Feb... SIA went into the red last quarter despite record revenue," the post says, adding, Tiong has asked Singapore govt "whether these losses have been assessed against SIA's capacity to provide essential transport services."

The SIA spokesperson said: "The SIA Group's capital allocation follows a disciplined evaluation process that considers its operating cash flow, investment requirements in new aircraft and products, as well as multi-hub investments such as Air India, to support sustainable long-term growth and returns."

AI has returned to its shareholders for \$1.5 billion, more than a year after Tata Sons halted fresh equity injections into the airline, as its

turnaround proves costlier and slower than initially envisaged. The amount would rank among the largest shareholder funding exercises since Tata Group regained control of the former state carrier in 2021.

Tata Sons had paused additional equity support in the year to March 2026. Its investment in AI stood unchanged at Rs 22,618 crore in the FY2026 report, the same level as a year earlier — indicating no fresh equity was infused during the year.

Air India's funding requirements were discussed at Tata Sons board meeting in June, chaired by N Chandrasekaran, the people said.

Air India reported a loss of Rs 22,238 crore in FY2026, more than double the previous year's deficit and the largest among Tata Group companies.



Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TRIBUNE

DELHI

29 AUGUST 2026

Plane tyre bursts on landing in C'garh

BILASPUR: A Bilaspur-bound flight from Delhi suffered a tyre burst during landing at the airport here in Chhattisgarh on Friday, but all 41 people on board were safely evacuated, officials said. The flight, 9I613, operated by Alliance Air, was carrying 37 passengers and four crew members when the incident occurred. — PTI