

Meghalaya Govt to ask AAI to disallow landing of flight

Proposed arrival of anti-cow slaughter campaigners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, Sept 27: The Meghalaya Government will ask the Airport Authority of India (AAI) to deny permission to anti-cow slaughter activists to land at the airport here. The move followed a hurriedly convened meeting this evening.

Earlier, a protest was held against holding of the proposed anti-cow slaughter rally in the Meghalaya capital.

Meghalaya Chief Secretary DP Wahlang said the decision (to stop the rallyists) has been taken to prevent any breakdown of law and order in the State.

"We have decided to write to the AAI to deny the rallyists any landing facility for their flight tomorrow," the Wahlang said.

He further stated that the Government held a meeting with representatives of the Central Puja Committee. The organ-

isation has clarified that it is not supporting any anti-cow slaughter rally.

"The committee has stated that it is not aware of any rally, and that it is not supporting it too," Wahlang said.

A Newmai News report from Shillong adds: Swami Avimukteshwaranand Saraswati is slated to arrive at the Shillong airport in a chartered plane on Saturday. His visit is meant to propagate a ban on cow slaughter.

Informing this on Friday, his national media coordinator Shailendra Yogiraj Sarkar said, "Swami Avimukteshwaranand will reach the airport at 12 pm and install the 'cow flag' under the Gau Dhvaj Sthapana Bharat Yatra, demanding declaration of the cow as the mother of the nation and enactment of a Central law to stop cow slaughter."

Meanwhile, the Khasi Students' Union (KSU) and the Hynniewtrep Youth Council (HYC) on Friday lodged a strong protest at the Shillong airport in Umroi against the proposed visit of Swami Avimukteshwaranand to Shillong for the cow protection rally.

Swami Avimukteshwaranand was supposed to arrive at the airport at 12 noon. After waiting for almost two hours, the protesters were informed that the visit has been postponed to Saturday.

HYC president Roypukar Synrem said that they would stage a protest on Saturday at the Umroi airport to ensure that "such people are not allowed to set feet on our land".

"We will ensure their journey to Meghalaya ends in the airport alone," he said. "We will not allow them to come here and dictate how we should live and what we should eat. As was done in Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, we, too, will not allow them to visit our State. If the district administration or the Government allows such people to come to Shillong, we are ready to take stern action and the deputy commissioners of Ri-Bhoi and East Khasi Hills districts, along with the Government led by Conrad Sangma, will have to take full responsibility in case of any breakdown of law and order," Synrem warned.



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28 SEPTEMBER 2024

SC clears GMR Airports to operate Nagpur airport, closes curative plea of Centre, AAI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday cleared decks for private firm GMR Airports to upgrade and operate Nagpur's Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport (AAI) by closing the proceedings on a curative plea of the Centre and the Airport Authority of India.

The Centre and the AAI had filed a curative petition against the dismissal of their review plea by the top court.

Prior to this, the apex court had rejected the petition of the Centre and the AAI against a Bombay High Court judgement allowing GMR Airports to upgrade and operate the Nagpur airport.

A special four-judge bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavai and JK Maheshwari closed the proceedings on the curative plea against its verdict after taking note of the opinion of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that the petition of the Centre and the AAI did not



fall under one of legal parameters prescribed for entertaining such pleas.

The curative plea is the last legal recourse available to a litigant and it was devised by the top court by a 2002 judgement in the Rupa Ashok Hurra case and such a plea, after the dismissal of the main case and the review petition, can be filed if there are certain violations.

They are that there should be a violation of the principle of natural justice, apprehension of bias and the abuse of judicial process.

The top law officer told the bench the curative plea may not fall under the 2002 judgement and they cannot argue that ground of bias and

analogous ground that the government was not heard.

"These proceedings cannot be made into an intra court appeal. I must own my decision.... I have not even consulted the Centre," the solicitor general said.

The law officer, however, submitted one aspect where the impugned judgement said the Centre and the AAI were not the necessary parties to the litigation may be reconsidered because of negative consequences in similar matters.

The bench appreciated views of the solicitor general, and said the curative plea is disposed of as "not pressed."

Allowing the submission of the law officer, the bench said,

"The observation ...Of the judgment that the AAI and the Union of India are not necessary parties would not be the correct position in law."

Earlier, the bench had sought the "dispassionate views" of the solicitor general as an officer of the court and not as a lawyer of the Centre and the AAI in the case.

The top court had on May 9, 2022 upheld the Bombay High Court order which quashed a March 2020 communication issued by a joint venture firm cancelling a contract awarded to GMR Airports for the upgradation and operation of the airport.

The Centre and the AAI have filed the curative plea against the 2022 order of the top court.

The special bench had taken up the curative plea in an open court for hearing.

The bench said since it was taking up the curative petition, it has to keep in mind the balance of equity as there are competing interests of the State and the private firm.

Prior to this, the bench had

directed the civil aviation ministry to submit the file notings pertaining to the tender process for the airport.

In 2022, the top court, while upholding the high court's order which quashed the March 2020 communication issued by the joint venture firm, MIHAN India Ltd (Multi Modal international Cargo Hub and Airport at Nagpur), cancelling the award of contract to GMR Airports, had said the impugned judgment was based on sound reasoning and true analysis of facts and did not warrant interference.

"We are of the considered opinion that the findings recorded by the High Court allowing the writ petition are in accordance with law. Those findings do not suffer from any illegality, warranting interference by this court in exercise of the power under Article 136 of the Constitution. All these appeals are hereby dismissed," a bench of Justices Vineet Saran, since retired, and J K Maheshwari had said on May 9, 2022.



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THE STATESMAN

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AAI GETS AWARD AT NORTH-EAST SUMMIT



Airports Authority of India (AAI) participated in the Vibrant North-East Summit 2024, which was organised from 19 to 21 September, 2024 at Guwahati, Assam with the theme "UNLEASHING THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF AAI NER", was adjudged with the award for Best Stall for Government of India's initiative display which was presented by Minister of Fisheries, government of Assam, Keshab Mahanta.



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NEW DELHI

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Apex court paves way for GMR to upgrade, operate Nagpur Int'l Airport

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

The Supreme Court on Friday closed the proceedings on a curative plea of the Centre and the Airport Authority of India (AAI) against its verdict allowing GMR Airports to upgrade and operate Nagpur's Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport.

The order came from a special four-judge Bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud.

The Centre and the AAI had filed a curative petition against the dismissal of their review plea by the top court which had already dismissed the petition of the Centre and the AAI against a Bombay High Court verdict allowing GMR Airports to upgrade and operate the

Nagpur Airport.

The Bench - which also included Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice BR Gavai and Justice JK Maheshwari - closed the proceedings on the curative petition against its verdict after taking note of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta's opinion that the petition of the Centre and the AAI did not fall under one of the legal parameters prescribed for entertaining such pleas.

Curative petitions are considered to be the last hope for a litigant to get justice. Generally, a curative petition is not taken up in open court and is entertained on the ground of violation of principles of natural justice. It's heard by circulation among the members of

the Bench. However, in exceptional cases, the top court can grant an open court hearing.

Maintaining that the curative petition did not fall within the parameters of the Rupa Hurra judgement, Mehta said, "These proceedings cannot be made into an intra court appeal. I must own my decision... I have not even consulted the Centre."

On May 9, 2022, the Supreme Court had upheld the Bombay High Court order quashing a March 2020 communication cancelling a contract awarded to GMR Airports for the upgrade and operation of the airport. The Centre and the AAI had filed the curative plea against the top court's order. — TNS

Delhi Airport immigration program now in other cities



A significant upgrade to the immigration process at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is set to roll out nationwide. The Fast Track Immigration Trusted Travellers Programme (FTI-TTP) will soon be expanded to 21 cities across India, offering a faster and more convenient experience for eligible travelers.

The FTI-TTP is designed to streamline the immigration process for pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders. By using e-gates for biometric authentication and verification, registered travelers can bypass the standard immigration lines and breeze through customs in just a few seconds.

Key benefits

Reduced Waiting Times: Say goodbye to long queues at immigration counters. Registered travelers can expect significantly faster processing times.

Enhanced Convenience: The biometric authentication process eliminates the need for manual document checks, making the immigration process more efficient and hassle-free.

Improved Security: The FTI-TTP

leverages advanced technology to ensure the highest security standards.

Eligibility

To enroll in the FTI-TTP, Indian nationals and OCI cardholders must meet specific criteria and complete a registration process. The exact eligibility requirements may vary depending on the city where the program is implemented.

Expansion plans

The FTI-TTP is currently operational at Delhi Airport. However, there are plans to expand the program to 21 cities across India in the near future. This expansion will provide more travelers with the opportunity to benefit from the faster and more convenient immigration process.

Conclusion

The expansion of the FTI-TTP to 21 cities marks a significant step forward in improving the travel experience for Indian nationals and OCI cardholders. By leveraging technology and streamlining the immigration process, this program aims to enhance efficiency, reduce waiting times, and enhance the overall travel experience.



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ASIAN AGE

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Man finds cockroach in food served on AI flight

New Delhi, Sept. 28: An Air India passenger has complained of finding a cockroach in an omelette served onboard the flight from the national capital to New York, with the airline saying the matter has been taken up with the catering service provider for further investigation. "We are aware of a social media post by a passenger regarding a foreign object in the onboard meal offered to them on AI 101 operating from DEL to JFK on 17 September 2024," an Air India spokesperson said in a statement and also expressed concern over the incident.

In a post on X, the passenger said a cockroach was found in the omelette served on the flight from Delhi to New York.

"My 2 year old finished more than half of it with me when we found this. Suffered from food poisoning as a result," she said.

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DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

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SpiceJet clears GST dues after raising Rs 3,000 cr

BENGALURU, DHNS: SpiceJet, on Friday, said that it has cleared all its Goods and Services Tax (GST) dues. According to the preliminary placement document filed with BSE, the airline has dues worth Rs 145.1 crore as on September 15.

The airline has been trying to clear its debts since its successful fundraise early in the week. The payment of GST dues follows it clearing its pending employee salary dues until August, (Rs 118.9 crore according to the document), on Thursday. The



beleaguered airline also settled a \$16.7 million dispute with engine leasing company, Engine Lease Finance Corporation (ELFC) on Tuesday.

This month also saw the airline restructuring some of its debts with lessors. Carlyle Aviation wrote off \$40.17 million in lease arrears and converted another \$30 million debt into equity at Rs 100 per share. Nine Irish lessors were allotted 4.81 crore equity shares on a preferential basis to clear outstanding dues of Rs 231 crore.

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DAINIK JAGRAN

NEW DELHI

29 SEPTEMBER 2024

एअर इंडिया की उड़ान में आमलेट में मिला काकरोच

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : एअर इंडिया की दिल्ली-न्यूयार्क उड़ान में एक बड़ा लापरवाही का मामला सामने आया है। यात्रा के दौरान एक यात्री को परोसे गए आमलेट में काकरोच मिलने की शिकायत सामने आई है। इसे खाने के कारण मां-बेटे को फूड प्वाइजनिंग हो गई। एयरलाइन के एक प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने के लिए हम आवश्यक कार्रवाई करेंगे।

एक यात्री ने इंटरनेट मीडिया पोस्ट में शिकायत की है कि 17 सितंबर 2024 को उड़ान एआइ 101 में दिए गए भोजन में काकरोच मिला। हमें जब वह दिखा तब तक इसका आधा हिस्सा खा लिया था। मेरे दो साल के बच्चे ने भी इसमें से कुछ हिस्सा

खाया था, जिसके कारण दोनों को फूड प्वाइजनिंग हो गई। महिला ने परोसे गए खाद्य पदार्थों की एक वीडियो और तस्वीरें भी साझा कीं। उन्होंने पोस्ट में एअर इंडिया, विमानन नियामक डीजीसीए और नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री को भी टैग किया।

एअर इंडिया के एक प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि एयरलाइन उक्त मामले को लेकर चिंतित है और आगे की जांच के लिए इसे खानपान सेवा प्रदाता के साथ उठाया है। एअर इंडिया प्रतिष्ठित कैटरर्स के साथ काम करता है, जो वैश्विक स्तर पर अग्रणी एयरलाइनों को आपूर्ति करते हैं और मेहमानों को परोसे जाने वाले भोजन की गुणवत्ता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कड़े एसओपी और कई जांच करते हैं।

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DAINIK JGARAN

KANPUR

28 SEPTEMBER 2024

हैदराबाद के लिए शुरू हुई उड़ान, यात्रियों ने सराहा

जासं, कानपुर: शहरियों को हैदराबाद की उड़ान की सुविधा मिलना शुरू हो गई है। शुक्रवार को 99 यात्री लेकर आई हैदराबाद की उड़ान 130 यात्रियों को लेकर वापस गई। अभी सप्ताह में चार दिन यह सुविधा मिलेगी। नए टर्मिनल से मुंबई, दिल्ली और बेंगलुरु के बाद अब शहरियों को चौथे शहर के लिए उड़ान की सुविधा मिली है।

एयरपोर्ट निदेशक संजय कुमार ने बताया कि हैदराबाद की उड़ान निर्धारित समय पर सुबह 11 बजे आने के बाद 11:30 बजे यहां से वापस गई। अभी इस उड़ान की

- अभी सप्ताह में चार दिन ही मिलेगी यह सुविधा
- नए टर्मिनल से शुरू हुई चौथे शहर के लिए उड़ान

99 यात्रियों लेकर सुबह 11 बजे आई उड़ान

130 यात्रियों को आधे घंटे बाद लेकर गया विमान

सुविधा सोमवार, बुधवार, शुक्रवार और रविवार को मिलेगी। शेष तीन दिनों में बेंगलुरु की उड़ान की सुविधा मिलेगी।



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एयर इंडिया की ओर से दिए गए खाने में कॉकरोच मिला

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। नई दिल्ली से अमेरिका जा रहे एयर इंडिया के विमान में दिए गए नाश्ते में कॉकरोच निकलने का मामला सामने आया है। महिला यात्री ने इसकी शिकायत दर्ज कराई है। उधर, एयर इंडिया ने पूरे मामले में जांच कराने की बात कही।

सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म एक्स पर शनिवार को सुयेशा सावंत ने लिखा कि वह अपने दो वर्षीय बेटे के साथ एयर इंडिया के विमान से अमेरिका जा

रही थीं। उड़ान भरने के कुछ समय बाद उन्हें नाश्ते में आर्मलेट दिया गया। वह बेटे के साथ इसको खा रही थीं। कुछ देर बाद उन्होंने देखा कि आर्मलेट में कॉकरोच है। यह देखकर उन्होंने विमान में मौजूद कर्मचारियों से भी इसकी शिकायत की।

उन्होंने सोशल मीडिया पर भी इसे पोस्ट किया। उन्होंने लिखा कि इसकी वजह से उन्हें और बेटे को फूड प्वाइजनिंग हो गई है।



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विमान के भीतर भोजन में काँकरोच मिला, जांच शुरू

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। एयर इंडिया के विमान में यात्री को परोसे गए भोजन में एक काँकरोच मिला। दिल्ली से न्यूयॉर्क जा रहे यात्री ने इसकी शिकायत एयरलाइन के अधिकारियों से की। इसके बाद एयर इंडिया ने जांच शुरू कर दी है। घटना 17 सितंबर की है।

यात्री ने एक्स पर पोस्ट में कहा कि विमान में मुझे ऑमलेट परोसा गया। इसमें काँकरोच निकला। इससे वह

■ एयर इंडिया की उड़ान
दिल्ली से न्यूयॉर्क
जा रही थी

फूड प्याइजनिंग से पीड़ित हो गया। परोसे गए भोजन के वीडियो और तस्वीरें भी साझा कीं। उन्होंने ने एयर इंडिया, डीजीसीए और नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के. राम मोहन नायडू को भी टैग किया।

Two jets came too close for comfort over Arabian Sea

El Al and Qatar Airways Boeing 777s came within a minute of each other, though standard separation is 10 minutes; preliminary probe shows no cockpit alerts were issued; two air traffic controllers suspended, sent for corrective training

S. Vijay Kumar
Jagriti Chandra
CHENNAI/DELHI

Two Boeing 777 aircraft – one belonging to El Al and the other to Qatar Airways – came within a minute of collision at 35,000 feet over the Arabian Sea on March 24, in an area managed by Mumbai’s air traffic controllers. On this route, planes are expected to stay at least 10 minutes apart.

The near miss came to light after a preliminary probe report was recently published by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, a division of the Union Civil Aviation Ministry. The report said that no cockpit alerts had been generated to warn the pilots of the two jets. According to sources, at least two of the air traffic controllers on duty during the incident have been suspended and sent for corrective training.

Dangerously close

According to the AAIB’s preliminary report, the two aircraft breached the standard separation at 7.36 a.m. IST on March 24. El Al flight ELY-81 was flying from Tel Aviv to Bangkok and the Qatar Airways flight QTR-8E was bound for Male from Doha.

Both the aircraft were on their designated flight



Close shave: Qatar Airways and El Al aircraft were in air space managed by the Mumbai ATC. REUTERS

route and flying at the same level, that is, at 35,000 feet. The breach of separation took place at waypoint ‘GOLEM’, which is over the Arabian Sea and falls in the Mumbai flight information region.

The standard lateral distance on this oceanic route is 10 minutes. However, these two aircraft were dangerously close, with the minimum separation between them narrowing to just 9.1 nautical miles, which means that the two planes were just one minute apart, according to the report.

No cockpit alerts

It said that there was no cockpit alert generated to

warn pilots of a collision threat by the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), and neither was there any air traffic control (ATC) alert. The investigation is yet to ascertain whether this was because the two aircraft were not close enough to produce the TCAS alert, or if there was any other reason.

“The final report will also be published in due course,” AAIB chief G.V.G. Yugandhar told *The Hindu* in response to queries about what may have led to the safety breach.

Flight speed unknown

Former airline instructor pilot and aviation safety

adviser Captain A. Mohan Ranganathan said that the TCAS did not generate traffic advisories or resolution advisories because the system would trigger an alert only if the two aircraft were within close proximity to each other with a threat of a collision. Such a scenario would occur when the separation ranged between 20 and 45 seconds, he said.

As both aircraft were cruising at 35,000 ft and without any traffic advisory, the pilots would have been aware of each other’s planes, with their positions noted on the cockpit primary flight display based on data from the Mode S transponder. Had visibility le-

vels been good, each of the pilots could have seen the other aircraft. Captain Ranganathan said that to understand the incident, it was important to know the speed at which each aircraft was travelling.

This has not been mentioned in the report. Procedure wise, by applying the 10-minute separation criterion, it was not a pilot error and one would have to look at the actions of the controllers handling the aircraft prior to ‘GOLEM’, he added.

No TCAS activation

Another aviation expert said that, typically, an aircraft would need to be 40 or 50 seconds away from the other for the TCAS to issue traffic advisories, and around 35 seconds from collision for a resolution advisory to be issued. In this incident, instead of there being a 10-minute separation, it was one minute, which would mean that the aircraft were nine or ten miles apart and probably not on a collision course. This could also explain why the TCAS did not activate, the expert said.

A senior pilot who flies the Boeing 777 aircraft said that the TCAS is usually activated when there is an alert within a range of approximately six nautical miles.

(With inputs from Murali N. Krishnaswamy)



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Passenger discovers 'cockroach' in meal on AI flight; airline 'concerned'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

A PASSENGER who took an Air India flight from Delhi to New York on September 17 has complained that she found a cockroach in one of the meals served by the airline, and consequently she and her two-year-old toddler came down with food poisoning. Reacting to the incident, Air India said that it is "concerned" and the matter has been taken up with the caterer for investigation.

"Air India works with reputed caterers who supply to leading airlines globally and have stringent SOPs (standard operating procedures) and multiple checks to ensure quality of meals served to our guests. We are concerned about the experience of the customer in the said instance and have taken it up with our catering service provider to investigate it further. We will take necessary actions to prevent any recurrence of such instances in future," an Air India spokesperson said.

The passenger—Suyesha Savant—took to social media platforms Instagram and X (for-



merly Twitter), posting videos and pictures of the omelette served to her in breakfast upon departure from Delhi. The videos and pictures show what appears to be an insect in the omelette. Savant is a journalist with a television news channel, per her social media profiles.

"...I found a cockroach in the omelette. I had already finished more than 2/3rd of the meal portion, and what was unimaginably worse was that I was feeding my 2 yr old toddler the same omelette. I felt sick to my pit. Not surprisingly, both of us suffered from food poisoning right at the start of our trip," Savant posted

on Instagram.

"Please beware!! My family and I have always been loyal to Air India (despite its shortcomings) for a variety of reasons, until this day when Air India really pushed us over the edge. We are now dreading our return flight, and safe to say, we are NOT looking forward to it!" she added in the post, in which Air India, aviation catering service provider TajSATS, and Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu were also tagged. In a similar post on X, Savant also tagged aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

This is the second incident of a potentially dangerous foreign object being discovered by passengers in meals served on Air India flights over the past four months. In June, a passenger flying to San Francisco from Bengaluru on an Air India flight had found a blade-like metal piece in one of the meals served to him. A few days later, the Tata group airline confirmed the presence of the object, and said that it was from the vegetable processing machine used at the facilities of its catering partner.

मेकमाईट्रिप ने 10 प्रमुख एयरलाइंस के साथ की साझेदारी

नयी दिल्ली, एजेंसी।

ऑनलाइन यात्रा सेवा प्रदाता कंपनी मेकमाईट्रिप ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बिजनेस क्लास यात्रा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आज दस प्रमुख एयरलाइंस कंपनी के साथ ही निजी क्षेत्र के आईसीआईसीआई बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है। कंपनी ने शुक्रवार को यहां बयान जारी कर बताया कि जैसे-जैसे भारत का यात्रा परिदृश्य विकसित होता जा रहा है, प्रीमियम अनुभव कई यात्रियों के लिए प्राथमिकता बनते जा रहे हैं। मेकमाईट्रिप की नवीनतम हाउ इंडियंस ट्रैवल अग्रॉड रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, वर्ष 2023 और 2024 के बीच अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बिजनेस क्लास उड़ानों की खोज में 10 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। परंपरागत रूप से अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन जैसे लंबी दूरी के गंतव्यों से जुड़ा यह चलन अब हांगकांग, श्रीलंका, जापान और सऊदी अरब जैसे गंतव्यों सहित छोटे मार्गों तक विस्तृत हो रहा है। इस बढ़ते जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिए



मेकमाईट्रिप ने 10 प्रमुख अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरलाइनों एयर अस्ताना, एयर इंडिया, एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस, मलेशिया एयरलाइंस, ओमान एयर, क्वांटस, सिंगापुर एयरलाइंस, टर्किश एयरलाइंस, वर्जिन अटलांटिक और विस्तारा के साथ करार किया है। ये एयरलाइंस बिजनेस क्लास किराए पर 20 प्रतिशत तक की छूट दे रही हैं। इसे

और भी आकर्षक बनाने के लिए मेकमाईट्रिप ने आईसीआईसीआई बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है, जो आईसीआईसीआई बैंक कार्डधारकों को अतिरिक्त 10 हजार रुपये की छूट प्रदान करता है। यात्री 27 सितंबर से 02 अक्टूबर तक बिजनेस क्लास फेस्ट के दौरान इन शानदार ऑफ़र का लाभ उठा सकते हैं। मेकमाईट्रिप में मुख्य परिचालन

अधिकारी (फ्लाइट्स, हॉलिडेज और गल्फ) सौजन्य श्रीवास्तव ने कहा, "भारतीय यात्री तेजी से विकसित हो रहे हैं। अपनी यात्रा के हर चरण में सर्वश्रेष्ठ की तलाश कर रहे हैं। बिजनेस क्लास फेस्ट जैसी पहलों के लॉन्च के साथ हमारा लक्ष्य प्रीमियम अनुभवों को सुलभ और पुरस्कृत करना है। हमें खुशी है कि यात्रा ईकोसिस्टम तेजी से हमें प्रीमियम

■ कंपनी ने शुक्रवार को यहां बयान जारी कर बताया कि जैसे-जैसे भारत का यात्रा परिदृश्य विकसित होता जा रहा है, प्रीमियम अनुभव कई यात्रियों के लिए प्राथमिकता बनते जा रहे हैं। मेकमाईट्रिप की नवीनतम हाउ इंडियंस ट्रैवल अग्रॉड रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, वर्ष 2023 और 2024 के बीच अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बिजनेस क्लास उड़ानों की खोज में 10 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। परंपरागत रूप से अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन जैसे लंबी दूरी के गंतव्यों से जुड़ा यह चलन अब हांगकांग, श्रीलंका, जापान और सऊदी अरब जैसे गंतव्यों सहित छोटे मार्गों तक विस्तृत हो रहा है।

यात्रियों के लिए पसंदीदा प्लेटफ़ॉर्म के रूप में देख रहा है। हमने अपने ग्राहकों के यात्रा अनुभव को बढ़ाने के लिए कई नई सुविधाएं और पहल शुरू की हैं और आने वाले महीनों में भी इस तरह की और पेशकशें लाते रहेंगे।"

Cockroach in meal shocks Air India passenger

STAFF REPORTER ■
NEW DELHI

In a shocking mid air discovery, an Air India passenger has complained of finding a cockroach in an omelette served onboard the flight from the national Capital to New York, with the airline saying the matter has been taken up with the catering service provider for further investigation. The incident occurred on flight AI 101 on September 17, 2024, and was reported by the passenger on social media platform X. The incident has raised concerns about food safety standard prompting Air India to review its catering protocols.

This is the second incident of a potentially dangerous foreign object being discovered by passengers in meals served on Air India flights over the past four months.

In the statement, the spokesperson said the airline is concerned about the experience of the customer in the said instance and has taken it up with the catering service provider to investigate further.

"Air India works with reputed caterers who supply to leading airlines globally and have stringent SOPs (standard operating procedures) and multiple checks to ensure quality of meals served to our guests. We are concerned about the experience of the customer in the



said instance and have taken it up with our catering service provider to investigate it further," the spokesperson said in a statement.

"We will take necessary actions to prevent any recurrence of such instances in future," the spokesperson said.

In a post on X, the passenger said a cockroach was found in the omelette served on the flight from Delhi to New York. "My 2 year old finished more than half of it with me when we found this. Suffered from food poisoning as a result," she said. The passenger also shared a short video and pictures of the food items served during the flight. She tagged Air India, aviation regulator DGCA and Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu in the post.

In June, a passenger flying to San Francisco from Bengaluru on an Air India flight had found a blade-like metal piece in one of the meals served to him.

Corporate Communications Directorate

RASHTRIYA SAHARA

NEW DELHI

29 SEPTEMBER 2024

‘एयर इंडिया’ में यात्री को भोजन में मिला कॉकरोच

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। एयर इंडिया के एक यात्री ने राष्ट्रीय राजधानी से न्यूयॉर्क जाने वाले विमान में परोसे गए ‘ऑमलेट’ में कॉकरोच मिलने की शिकायत की है। वही, एयर इंडिया ने कहा है कि उसने आगे की जांच के लिए खानपान सेवा प्रदाता के समक्ष यह मामला उठाया है।

एयर इंडिया के प्रवक्ता ने घटना पर चिंता जताते हुए कहा, हम एक यात्री द्वारा सोशल मीडिया पर पोस्ट की गई जानकारी से अवगत हैं, जिसमें 17 सितंबर 2024 को दिल्ली से जेएफके जाने वाली एआई 101 उड़ान में उसे दिए गए भोजन में कोई विदेशी वस्तु मिलने की बात कही गई है। यात्री ने ‘एक्स’ पर एक पोस्ट में कहा



■ 17 सितम्बर को दिल्ली से न्यूयॉर्क जाने वाली फ्लाइट में हुई घटना

■ यात्री ने सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से शिकायत दर्ज कराई

था कि दिल्ली से न्यूयॉर्क जाने वाले विमान में परोसे गए ऑमलेट में कॉकरोच मिला। यात्री ने बताया, ‘जब हमें यह पता चला तब तक मेरा दो साल का बच्चा आधे से ज्यादा ऑमलेट

खा चुका था। इसके परिणामस्वरूप वह बीमार हो गया। यात्री ने उड़ान के दौरान परोसे गए खाद्य पदार्थों का एक छोटा वीडियो और तस्वीर भी साझा की। उसने पोस्ट में एयर इंडिया, विमानन नियामक डीजीसीए और नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री के

राममोहन नायडू को टैग किया। जवाब में एयर इंडिया के प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि कंपनी उक्त मामले में यात्री को हुई परेशानी को लेकर चिंतित है और खानपान सेवा प्रदाता के समक्ष यह मामला उठाया है। हम भविष्य में इस तरह की घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति को रोकने के लिए आवश्यक कार्रवाई करेंगे।

SpiceJet says it clears all GST dues post raising ₹3,000 crore



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 27 SEPTEMBER

Domestic airline SpiceJet said on Friday that it has cleared all GST dues of around Rs 71 crore, days after raising Rs 3,000 crore through Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP).

"SpiceJet has cleared all its Goods and Services Tax (GST) dues, demonstrating its commitment to maintaining financial discipline and regulatory compliance," said the airline in a statement.

Post the announcement, SpiceJet's shares rose at 11 am on BSE trading 1% higher at Rs 62.42 apiece.

"We are proud to have cleared all GST dues, a significant step towards reinforcing our commitment to financial discipline and regulatory compliance," said Ajay Singh, Chairman & Man-

aging Director of SpiceJet.

"These developments reflect our commitment to providing exceptional service to our passengers while positioning ourselves strategically for the future," he added.

Earlier this month, SpiceJet revealed that it did not pay statutory dues amounting to nearly Rs 427 crore between April 2020 and August 2024 due to its constrained financial position.

The unpaid dues include Rs 219.8 crore in tax deducted at source (TDS), Rs 71.33 crore in goods and services tax (GST), and Rs 135.47 crore towards provident fund (PF) contribution.

It had disclosed that 36 of its 58 aircraft are grounded, primarily due to alleged default in payments to aircraft lessors, financial difficulties affecting aircraft maintenance, and the unavailability of components and spare parts.

SpiceJet clears GST dues

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi: Debt-ridden SpiceJet on Friday said it has cleared all its Goods and Services Tax (GST) dues.

The airline, which raised ₹3,000 crore through the Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) route last week, had GST dues worth over ₹145 crore.

In a release, the carrier said it has cleared all the GST dues. As per the preliminary placement document related to ₹3,000 crore fund raise, the airline had GST dues of ₹145.1 crore as on September 15.

After receiving the fresh capital of ₹3,000 crore, SpiceJet has also cleared salary dues of employees for July and August as well part of pending June salaries.

Meanwhile, Union civil aviation minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu on Friday said his ministry is seeking to increase the number of airports in the country to 350 and boost tourism.

At an event held to mark the World Tourism Day, he also said his ministry is working on connecting more hinterlands locations which are close to unexplored sites.



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NEW DELHI

29 SEPTEMBER 2024

AI flyer finds cockroach in meal served on New York flight

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 28

An Air India passenger has complained of finding a cockroach in an omelette served onboard the flight from the national capital to New York, with the airline saying the matter has been taken up with the catering service provider for further investigation.

"We are aware of a social media post by a passenger regarding a foreign object in the onboard meal offered to them on AI 101 operating from DEL to JFK on 17 September, 2024," an Air India spokesperson said in a statement and also expressed concern over the incident.

In a post on X, the passenger said a cockroach was found in the omelette served on the flight from Delhi to New York. The passenger also shared a short video of the food items. — PTI