



भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

STATESMAN

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

HMCA inspects new terminal building of Prayagraj Airport



Kinjarapu, Rammohan Naidu, Minister of Civil Aviation visited Prayagraj Airport, to review the ongoing works of the New Terminal Building.

HMCA inspected the entire project thoroughly along with VVualnam, Secretary, MoCA, Vipin Kumar, Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI); Anil Kumar Gupta, Member (Planning), AAI and the team

of engineers at the site.

The project team briefed review team that two phases of construction work have been completed and development work of third phase is underway. HMCA during his review, gave instruction to expedite and complete all remaining works, so as to make the airport ready by January 2025 for Mahakumbh.



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DAINIK BHASKAR

JAIPUR

28 DECEMBER 2024

जयपुर एयरपोर्ट: फ्लाइट मूवमेंट में सुधरी रैंक, टॉप-10 में पहुंचा, पांच साल से टॉप-15 में था

एविएशन रिपोर्टर | जयपुर

गुलाबी नगरी में पर्यटन सीजन चरम पर है और इसका फायदा जयपुर एयरपोर्ट को भी मिलता नजर आ रहा है। पिछले 5 साल से फ्लाइट संचालन के मामले में टॉप-15 में शामिल जयपुर एयरपोर्ट नवंबर माह में देश के टॉप-10 एयरपोर्ट की सूची में जगह बनाने में कामयाब हुआ है। एयरपोर्ट के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया कि एयरपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया (एआई) की ओर से देश के सबसे व्यस्त एयरपोर्ट की जारी की गई सूची में जयपुर ने अपने समकक्ष माने जाने वाले लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट और गुवाहाटी के एयरपोर्ट को पीछे छोड़ दिया है। चौंकाने वाली बात यह है कि जयपुर ने गोवा के दाबोलिम इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट को भी पीछे छोड़ दिया है। जयपुर में नवंबर में 4165 फ्लाइट्स ऑपरेट हुईं, जबकि लखनऊ में 4162, गुवाहाटी में 3979 और गोवा के दाबोलिम एयरपोर्ट पर 3781 फ्लाइट संचालित हुईं। वहीं, अगर हम यात्रीभार की बात करें तो जयपुर 12वें नंबर पर है। गोवा और लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट जयपुर से आगे हैं।

यात्रीभार; 12वीं रैंक, गोवा-लखनऊ से आगे

वर्तमान में गोवा में 2 एयरपोर्ट संचालित हैं। दाबोलिम और मोपा दोनों एयरपोर्ट के फ्लाइट संचालन के आंकड़े जोड़ें तो यह जयपुर से ज्यादा हैं, लेकिन गोवा के पुराने दाबोलिम एयरपोर्ट पर फ्लाइट संचालन जयपुर एयरपोर्ट की तुलना में कम है। नवंबर माह में जयपुर एयरपोर्ट से रोजाना औसतन 69.41 फ्लाइट्स का संचालन हुआ है।

फ्लाइट संचालन में दिल्ली टॉप पर

- दिल्ली से नवंबर में सर्वाधिक 38572 फ्लाइट संचालित।
- मुंबई से 27200, बेंगलुरु से 22192, हैदराबाद से 16930, चेन्नई से 12849, कोलकाता से 12263 फ्लाइट।
- अहमदाबाद से 8735, कोच्चि से 6028, पुणे से 5787 फ्लाइट संचालित हुईं। **यात्रीभार** : जयपुर से 5.57 लाख ने यात्रा की।
- दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट से नवंबर में 67.88 लाख यात्रियों ने यात्रा की।
- मुंबई से 47.75 लाख, बेंगलुरु से 35.68 लाख, हैदराबाद 25.31 लाख, कोलकाता 19.01 लाख, चेन्नई 18.40 लाख, अहमदाबाद 11.98 लाख यात्रियों ने यात्रा की।
- कोच्चि से 9.49 लाख, पुणे 9 लाख, गोवा 6.25 लाख, लखनऊ से 5.88 लाख ने यात्रा की।
- जयपुर एयरपोर्ट से 5.57 लाख और गुवाहाटी एयरपोर्ट से 5.41 लाख ने यात्रा की।

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Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

28 DECEMBER 2024

RGIA STAFF HELD FOR LIQUOR SMUGGLING

M. SRINIVAS I DC
HYDERABAD, DEC. 27

Constable M. Gemya Naik and home guard B. Lingaiah posted with the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), were arrested by the Prohibition and Excise department along with software engineer and another person for possessing duty-free liquor to be sold during New Year celebrations.

The police personnel were given protocol duties. The others were Girdhara Harish Kumar of Madhapur and hotel manager P. Raghavendra Rao of Banjara Hills. One Maheswar is absconding. Excise personnel seized 41 duty-free foreign liquor bottles, three cars and four mobile phones, all worth over ₹15 lakh were seized from their possession near the ORR exit at Shamshabad. Prohibition and Excise Enforcement director V.B. Kamalasan Reddy appreciated the staff. Officials said Naik and Lingaiah used to approach air passengers known to them after landing at Airport.

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MILLENNIUM POST

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

‘Israel hits Yemen airport as civilian jet was landing’

Israeli airstrikes hit Yemen's main airport as a civilian Airbus 320 with hundreds of passengers on board was landing

UNITED NATIONS: Israeli airstrikes hit Yemen's main airport as a civilian Airbus 320 with hundreds of passengers on board was landing and a UN delegation was waiting to leave, the UN's top humanitarian official in Yemen said Friday.

Julien Harneis told UN reporters that the most frightening thing about the two airstrikes on Thursday wasn't their effect on him and about 15 others in the VIP lounge at the international airport in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, including the head of the UN World Health Organisation.

Rather, it was the destruction of the airport control tower as a Yemenia Airways plane was taxiing in after touching down.

"Fortunately, that plane was able to land safely and the passengers were able to disembark, but it could have been far, far worse," said Harneis, who was with WHO Director-General



Screengrab from an AP footage of the Israeli airstrike

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in the lounge.

He said one airstrike landed approximately 300 metres (330 yards) south of the VIP lounge and another about 300 metres to the north around 4:45 pm, while about five members of the UN team were outside the building. "Not only obviously did we have zero indication of any potential airstrikes, but we cannot remember the last time there were airstrikes in Sanaa during daylight hours," Har-

neis said in a video news conference from Sanaa.

The UN said at least three people were killed and dozens injured in the strike. Among the injured was a crew member from the UN Humanitarian Air Service, which was about to fly the UN delegation of some 20 people out of Sanaa.

He suffered a serious leg injury from shrapnel and lost a lot of blood, Harneis said.

Immediately after the airstrikes, Harneis said, UN security officials moved the delegation out of the VIP building and into five armoured cars where they waited for approximately 40 minutes to ascertain what happened and help the injured crew member.

He was taken to a hospital in Sanaa and underwent four hours of surgery while the rest of the delegation spent the night in a UN compound, Harneis said.

AGENCIES

ALIPURDUAR

Residents demand establishment of central hospital and civil airport

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ALIPURDUAR: Residents of Alipurduar participated in a 12-hour business shut-down, public rally and march to the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) office on Friday, demanding the establishment of a Central Super Specialty Hospital at Alipurduar Junction along a civilian airport at Hasimara. Organised by the Dooars Unnayan Sangram Samiti, a non-political citizens' platform, the protest saw widespread participation in Vivekananda 1 and 2 Panchayats and Junction areas of Alipurduar.

Over 3,000 residents, including traders and representatives of various political parties, joined the sit-in demonstration. The protest stems from unfulfilled promises by former Alipurduar MP and Union minister John Barla, who had assured the construction of a 200-bed super specialty hospital on Railway land in Alipurduar Junction and a new terminal for civil aviation at the Hasimara Air Force Station. Despite these announcements and the identi-



The protest was organised by the Dooars Unnayan Sangram Samiti PIC/MPOST

fication of land for the hospital, no significant progress has been made. Convener of the Dooars Unnayan Sangram Samiti, Ratul Biswas, stated: "This is a long-standing demand of the people of Alipurduar. Our movement is apolitical and aims to fulfill the aspirations of common citizens.

Today, around 1,000 businesses shut down in solidarity. We demand the establishment of the promised hospital and airport and an assurance that residents living on Railway land will not face eviction." Biswas accused the authorities of engaging in "political drama" before elections by staging foundation stone ceremonies without follow-up action. "If our demands are not met, we will escalate this

movement to Delhi," he added. Echoing the sentiment, Prasenjit Dey, General Secretary of the Alipurduar Chamber of Commerce, remarked: "A central hospital like AIIMS would benefit the entire Dooars region and boost the local economy. We are ready to expand this movement across the district and beyond."

The day-long protest included a massive rally from Alipurduar Junction Railway Station to the DRM office. Protesters submitted a memorandum addressed to five Central government ministers through the Railway Divisional Manager. Shops in the Junction area remained closed throughout the day in support of the movement.

Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEER

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

Israeli airstrikes hit Yemen airport

Jet with hundreds onboard was landing at that time, says UN official

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

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"Fortunately, that plane was able to land safely and the passengers were able to disembark, but it could have been far, far worse," said Harneis, who was with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in the lounge.

He said one airstrike landed approximately 300 metres (330

yards) south of the VIP lounge and another about 300 metres to the north around 4:45 pm, while about five members of the UN team were outside the building. "Not only obviously did we have zero indication of any potential airstrikes, but we cannot remember the last time there were airstrikes in Sanaa during daylight hours," Harneis said in a video news conference from Sanaa.

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He was taken to a hospital in

Sanaa and underwent four hours of surgery while the rest of the delegation spent the night in a UN compound, Harneis said. The UN plane with Tedros and the UN team, including the injured crew member, was able to depart for Jordan on Friday afternoon — without an operating control tower.

The United Nations said the injured crew member was taken to a hospital in Jordan, and Tedros was heading back to Geneva, where WHO is based.

Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels, who control Sanaa and much of the country's north, have gone after Israel since it started attacking Gaza following the Oct 7, 2023 attacks by Gaza's Hamas militants on southern Israel. The Houthis have attacked ships in the Red Sea, disrupting one of the world's main maritime routes, and recently stepped up missile and drone attacks on Israel.

Israel has escalated its response. The Israeli army said it wasn't aware that the WHO chief or UN delegation were at the

Sanaa airport on Thursday. Israel said it bombed the airport because it is used by the Houthis and Iran.

Harneis responded, stressing that the airport is civilian, not military, and is used for transporting UN and other humanitarian workers, and for one civilian flight — Yemenia to and from Amman, Jordan. The flight operates as a result of an international agreement, and thousands of Yemenis have used the flight to get advanced medical treatment abroad, he said.

Yemen is the Arab world's poorest nation and has been engulfed in a 10-year civil war between the Houthi rebels, who control Sanaa and much of the country's north, and the internationally recognised government forces in the south.

Tedros was in the country to discuss its worsening humanitarian crisis and to seek the release of about 50 people detained by the Houthis since June from the UN, nongovernmental organisations and civil society.

Harneis said 18 million

Yemenis — about half the country's population — need humanitarian assistance this year, and the UN expects the number to increase to 19 million next year because of the worsening economy.

In addition to airstrikes on the Sanaa airport, Israel has been attacking the country's key port of Hodeida, in western Yemen. Harneis said Yemen relies on imports through Hodeida for 80% of its food and more than 90% of its medical supplies to the north.

A recent Israeli airstrike destroyed two tugboats and is estimated to have reduced the harbor's capacity by 50%, the UN official said, while damage from Thursday's airstrikes hasn't been assessed yet.

As for the detainees, Harneis said he joined the WHO chief at meetings with the Houthi prime minister, foreign minister and a member of the group's Supreme Political Council. He said they received commitments on the detainees' possible release and a pathway to it, and on conditions under which they are being held.



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ASIAN AGE

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

Several airlines call off flights to Russia

Moscow, Dec. 28: Several airlines have announced the suspension of flights to Russian cities, after Western experts and the US suggested the crash of the Azerbaijan Airlines this week may have been caused by a Russian anti-aircraft missile.

Turkmenistan Airlines was the latest airline to announce cancellations on Saturday.

It said that "regular flights between Ashgabat-Moscow-Ashgabat were cancelled from 30/12/2024 to 31/01/2025," without

giving an explanation.

The decision came after UAE airline flydubai suspended flights between Dubai and the southern Russian cities of Mineralnye Vody and Sochi that were scheduled between December 27, 2024 and January 3, 2025.

Kazakhstan's Qazaq Air has suspended its flights to Russia's Urals city of Yekaterinburg until the end of January. Earlier this week, Israeli airline El Al said it was suspending its flights to Moscow for a week. — *AFP*

Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

नए साल के लिए फ्लाइट्स और होटलों के दाम आसमान पर

श्रीनगर, लेह, शिमला, कुल्लू और जैसलमेर पसंदीदा स्थान, पर्यटकों की भीड़ बढ़ने के आसार

अजीत सिंह

नई दिल्ली। नए साल की छुट्टियां बिताने के लिए लोगों की तैयारी जोरों पर है। इसका असर यह हुआ है कि देश के प्रमुख स्थानों के लिए फ्लाइट्स और होटलों के किराये आसमान पर पहुंच गए हैं। आम दिनों की तुलना में ये किराये 50 से लेकर 100 फीसदी तक बढ़ गए हैं।

प्रमुख स्थानों में श्रीनगर, लेह, शिमला, कुल्लू, बाणडोगरा और जैसलमेर शामिल हैं। प्रमुख वेबसाइटों पर इन स्थानों के लिए फ्लाइट्स और होटलों के किराये को जब देखा गया तो आम दिनों की तुलना में इसमें जबरदस्त वृद्धि हुई है। उदाहरण के तौर पर दिल्ली से श्रीनगर की फ्लाइट्स का किराया 29-30 दिसंबर को 19,674 रुपये है। एक जनवरी को यह 6,000 रुपये हो जाता है। यहां दलित होटल का एक रात का किराया 33,000 रुपये से ज्यादा है। ताज का किराया 41,300 रुपये



श्रीनगर में शनिवार को बर्फबारी के बीच महिला पर्यटक। एजेंसी

और रेडिसन का 24,000 रुपये है। इसी तरह, 29-30 दिसंबर को दिल्ली से शिमला की फ्लाइट का किराया 15,750 रुपये है। एक जनवरी को यह घटकर 8,925

रुपये हो जाता है। यहां ओबेराय का एक रात का किराया 35,000 रुपये और रेडिसन जस का 38,518 रुपये है। दिल्ली से कुल्लू का किराया 29-30 दिसंबर को 21,809

रुपये का जैसलमेर सबसे महंगा पर्यटक स्थल है। यहां 29-30 दिसंबर को दिल्ली से फ्लाइट का किराया 18 से 21 हजार रुपये है।

जैसलमेर की फ्लाइट करीब चार गुना महंगी

एक जनवरी को यही टिकट 5,900 रुपये में उपलब्ध है।

यहां होटलों के किराये भी ज्यादा हैं। एक रात का किराया जैसलमेर मैरिएट का 39,625 रुपये और रंगमहल का 30,000 रुपये है।

लेह का किराया दोगुना से ज्यादा : दिल्ली से लेह की फ्लाइट का किराया 29-30 दिसंबर को 12,704 रुपये है। एक जनवरी को यह 5,917 रुपये है। यहां भी तमाम होटल पूरी तरह भर चुके हैं। होटलों का किराया 20,000 से ऊपर है। सिक्किम के लिए बाणडोगरा की फ्लाइट का किराया दिल्ली से 11,000 रुपये है जो आम दिनों में 6,000 रुपये के आस पास होता है।

और 17,609 रुपये है। एक जनवरी को यही टिकट 9,419 रुपये है। टियारा होटल का किराया 23,000 रुपये और नेचर विला का किराया 27,000 रुपये है।



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AMAR UJALA

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

इस्तांबुल की उड़ान में
तकनीकी खराबी से
करीब सौ यात्री अटके



मुंबई। इंडिगो की इस्तांबुल जा रही उड़ान में तकनीकी खराबी आने से करीब सौ यात्री शनिवार को देर रात तक मुंबई के छत्रपति शिवाजी महाराज अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाईअड्डे पर अटके रहे।

जानकारी के मुताबिक, उड़ान संख्या 6ई17 को सुबह 6:55 पर इस्तांबुल के लिए उड़ान भरनी थी। लेकिन तकनीकी खराबी के कारण उसे रद्द कर दिया गया। कई घंटों तक दूसरे विमान का इंतजाम न हो पाने के बाद इंडिगो की तरफ से बयान जारी कर खेद जताया गया। इंडिगो ने यात्रियों को सूचना दी कि उड़ान रात 11 बजे खाना होगी। एजेसी

Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK BHASKAR

JAIPUR

28 DECEMBER 2024

जयपुर से सुबह गई थी फ्लाइट, 1 घंटे तक चक्कर काटती रही उदयपुर से दो फ्लाइट डायवर्ट, जयपुर से गई फ्लाइट भी लौटी

जयपुर | उदयपुर में शुक्रवार को मौसम खराब होने से जयपुर से गई फ्लाइट की लैंडिंग अटक गई। एक घंटे से भी अधिक समय तक फ्लाइट को लैंडिंग की अनुमति मिली। इसके चलते फ्लाइट आसमान में चक्कर काटती रही।

मामला इंडिगो की फ्लाइट 6ई-7465 का है। यह सुबह 6:55 बजे उदयपुर रवाना हुई और करीब 7:50 बजे उदयपुर पहुंच गई, लेकिन एटीसी ने लैंडिंग की अनुमति नहीं दी। इसके बाद करीब एक घंटे तक फ्लाइट आसमान में चक्कर काटती रही। इस दौरान 70 यात्रियों की सांस अटकी रही। बाद में फ्लाइट को जयपुर डायवर्ट किया गया। सुबह 9:15 बजे फ्लाइट जयपुर में लैंड हुई। उदयपुर एयरपोर्ट

पर कम दृश्यता के चलते 2 और फ्लाइट्स को जयपुर डायवर्ट किया गया। मुंबई-उदयपुर फ्लाइट 6ई-5038 को सुबह 8:05 बजे और दिल्ली-उदयपुर फ्लाइट 6ई-2103 को सुबह 8:15 बजे जयपुर एयरपोर्ट पर डायवर्ट किया गया।

5वें दिन दिल्ली फ्लाइट लेट

एयर इंडिया एक्सप्रेस की दिल्ली की फ्लाइट आईएक्स-1199 पांचवें दिन भी लेट रही। शुक्रवार को फ्लाइट दोपहर 12:20 बजे की बजाय 4:30 घंटे की देरी से शाम 5 बजे रवाना हुई। यह सोमवार को सवा चार घंटे, मंगलवार, बुधवार को 2-2 घंटे और गुरुवार को सवा दो घंटे देरी से गई थी। इंदौर जाने वाली फ्लाइट सुबह 9:10 बजे की बजाय 10:05 बजे रवाना हुई।



Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JGARAN

KANPUR

28 DECEMBER 2024

डीजीसीए ने अकासा एयर के दो निदेशकों को किया निलंबित

मुंबई, प्रेट्र: विमानन सुरक्षा नियामक डीजीसीए ने अकासा एयर के संचालन निदेशक और प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को छह महीने के लिए निलंबित करने का आदेश दिया है। पायलटों की ट्रेनिंग में चूक मामले को लेकर यह कदम उठाया गया।

डीजीसीए ने अपने आदेश में कहा कि राकेश झुनझुनवाला परिवार की हिस्सेदारी वाली एयरलाइन के दो वरिष्ठ अधिकारी नागर विमानन से जुड़े प्रविधानों का पालन सुनिश्चित करने में विफल रहे हैं। डीजीसीए ने अकासा एयर के परिचालन निदेशक और प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को क्रमशः 15 अक्टूबर और 30 अक्टूबर को कारण बताओ नोटिस भेजा था। अधिकारियों की ओर से भेजे गए जवाब को असंतोषजनक पाते हुए डीजीसीए ने उन्हें निलंबित करने का आदेश दे दिया। साथ ही दोनों पदों के लिए उपयुक्त उम्मीदवारों को नामित करने की सलाह भी दी।



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FREE PRESS JOURNAL 'MUMBAI 28 DECEMBER 2024

2025 will be no less transformative in its own way for Air India: CEO

IAN S
NEW DELHI

The coming year will be no less transformative in its own way for Air India and we will elevate the national carrier even higher, Campbell Wilson, CEO and Managing Director of Air India, said on Friday.

In a post, he said that 2024 was a transformative year for Air India and Indian aviation in many ways.

According to him, 2025 will see progress on many more key initiatives, such as refit-

ting widebody and remaining narrowbody 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," said the Air India CEO.

2024 saw the realisation of some of the most significant milestones in the carrier's transformation journey.



Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL 'MUMBAI' 28 DECEMBER 2024

DGCA orders suspension of 2 directors of Akasa Air for training lapses

PTI

NEW DELHI

Aviation safety regulator DGCA on Friday ordered the 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, in which the Rakesh Jhunjhunwala family holds stakes, 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.

The suspension of the Akasa Air director of operations and director of training came after the DGCA found the replies to the show-cause notices issued to them on October 15 and October 30, respectively, as "unsatisfactory".

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation, in its orders, also advised the airline to

nominate "suitable" candidates for the two positions.

Response to the query sent to Akasa on the issue was awaited.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) while issuing suspension orders, said: "It has been found in regulatory audit conducted by DGCA on Oct 7, 2024, at M/s SNV Aviation Private Limited (Akasa Air), Mumbai, that RNP training (Approaches) is being conducted on simulators which have not been qualified for the same... which is in violation of Para 7 of CAR Section 7, Series D, Part VI."



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HARI BHUMI

DELHI

29 DECEMBER 2024

डीजीसीए ने अकासा एयर पर की कार्रवाई



नई दिल्ली। नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) ने पायलटों के प्रशिक्षण में कथित खामियों के लिए अकासा एयर के परिचालन निदेशक और प्रशिक्षण निदेशक को छह महीने के लिए निलंबित करने का आदेश दिया। डीजीसीए ने 27 दिसंबर को जारी अपने दो अलग-अलग आदेशों में कहा कि एयरलाइन सीएआर का पालन करने में 'विफल' रही हैं।

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES MUMBAI 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



Akasa Air's directors failed to meet legal requirements to maintain safe operations of the airlines.

PTI

RNP TRAINING WAS FOUND BEING CONDUCTED ON UNQUALIFIED SIMULATORS

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.

Corporate Communications Directorate

HINDUSTAN TIMES' PATNA

28 DECEMBER 2024

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

Press Trust of India

feedback@livemint.com

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 executive officer (CEO) 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 des-



**Air India CEO and MD
Campbell Wilson.**

MINT

tinations 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 con-

sider '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 ₹4,444.10 crore from ₹11,387.96 crore in 2022-23.

Its turnover rose 23.69% to ₹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.

Among other initiatives to streamline the group's operations, Air India has optimised the deployment of its best narrow body and wide body products in high-density and high-demand routes.

AIR INDIA PILOT SUICIDE: COURT GRANTS BAIL TO BOYFRIEND

Revu Suresh

revu.suresh@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: A sessions court on Friday granted bail to a 27-year-old Delhi resident who was arrested by the Mumbai police last month for allegedly abetting the suicide of his 25-year-old girlfriend. The woman, an Air India pilot, was found dead at her Andheri flat on November 25, after which the Powai police arrested her boyfriend under section 108 (abetment of suicide) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

After the woman's suicide last month, her family had alleged that her boyfriend used to harass and publicly humiliate her, which led her to take the extreme step. According to the police, a day before the woman's death, the couple had had an argument at her apartment, after which the boyfriend left for Delhi. The woman then allegedly called him to say that she was going to die by suicide. She did not leave behind any suicide note.

Advocate Aniket Nikam, representing the accused, argued that there were no grounds to implicate his client in a suicide abetment case. He pointed to the FIR, which stated that the woman had spoken to her mother before the suicide and sounded normal. That the couple had some arguments was insufficient to prove that the accused had any criminal intent, he told the court.

The defence also said in the bail plea that the deceased was an educated woman who could have walked out of the relationship if she was unhappy. Since there was no suicide note, the defence submitted that it could not be concluded that the accused abetted the suicide of his girlfriend.

Additional sessions judge TT Aglawe directed the accused to be released after executing a bail bond of ₹25,000. The court directed the accused to cooperate with the investigation and visit the Powai police station every Wednesday for the next 60 days or till the charge sheet is filed.



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HINDU

CHENNAI

28 DECEMBER 2024

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.

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The Hindu Bureau

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Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

28 DECEMBER 2024

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flying over 60 million customers annually to more than 100 destinations in India and around the world.

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Among other initiatives to streamline the group's operations, Air India has optimised the deployment of its best narrow body and wide body products in high-density and high-demand routes. PFI



Corporate Communications Directorate

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

28 DECEMBER 2024

DGCA orders suspension of two Akasa directors for lapses in pilots' training

MUMBAI: Aviation safety regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday ordered the 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, in which the Rakesh Jhunjhunwala family holds stakes, have "failed" to ensure "compliances" with the civil aviation requirements, DGCA said in its order of December 27.

Response to the query sent to Akasa on the issue was awaited.

P11

IndiGo launches Kolkata- Phuket flight

KOLKATA: The airline IndiGo on Friday launched its daily flight from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) airport, Kolkata to Phuket, Thailand to meet the growing demand for travel between India and Southeast Asia.

An AAI official shared the news on Friday. The Kolkata airport authorities wrote on X handle: Exciting news for travelers! IndiGo launches its daily flight from #KolkataAirport to the beautiful Phuket, Thailand, meeting the growing demand for travel between India & Southeast Asia. #AAI extends its best wishes to #IndiGo and takes pride in providing world-class infrastructure, safety, and efficiency to support this new venture! #KolkataToPhuket #IndiGo #TravelConnections'.

The airline had announced earlier this month about its plans to launch direct flights from Kolkata to Phuket beginning December 27. The airline highlighted its aim to bolster India's tourism ties with Thailand, particularly given the rising travel demands among Indians visiting Thailand's largest island, known for its beaches and cultural heritage. The new route is part of IndiGo's strategy to enhance accessibility for Indian tourists to Southeast Asia.

Flights are reportedly scheduled six days a week, facilitating trade and tourism while supporting Kolkata's evolution as a pivotal regional travel hub.



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NAVBHARAT TIMES

DELHI

20 DECEMBER 2024

मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर घंटों फंसे रहे यात्री

■ एनबीटी, मुंबई: मुंबई एयरपोर्ट पर इंडिगो की उड़ान से इस्तांबुल जाने वाले 100 यात्री शनिवार को 16 घंटों तक फंसे

इस्तांबुल
जानी थी
इंडिगो की
उड़ान

रहे। मुंबई-इस्तांबुल की यह उड़ान पहले सुबह 6:30 बजे थी, जिसका समय कई बार बदला और अखिर में यह

आठ घंटों बाद तकनीकी कारणों से यह रह कर दी गई। इससे यात्री भड़क गए। यात्रियों का आरोप है कि हमें फ्लाइट रह करने का कोई कारण नहीं बताया गया है। कई यात्रियों ने सोशल मीडिया पर भी नाराजगी जाहिर की। एयरलाइन ने यात्रियों से माफी मांगते हुए कहा कि उनकी सुरक्षा हमारी प्राथमिकता है।

हवाई किराये क्या आसमान छू रहे? लेकिन सचाई तो कुछ और है...

त्योहारी सीजन और इयर एंड की छुट्टियों के कारण हवाई किराये बढ़े हैं। लेकिन ग्लोबल स्टडी बताती है कि जिस हिसाब से जेट फ्यूल और महंगाई बढ़ी है, उसकी तुलना में किराये उतनी तेजी से नहीं बढ़े हैं। इस स्टडी में 2015 से लेकर अगस्त 2024 तक के हवाई किराये और महंगाई की तुलना की गई। स्टडी बताती है कि समय के साथ बढ़ती लागत के बोझ का बड़ा हिस्सा यात्रियों पर डालने के बजाय एयरलाइंस ने खुद झेला है।



एयरफेयर का ट्रेंड

Global 2020 से पहले गिरावट और महामारी का असर: हवाई किराये 2020 से पहले लगातार घट रहे थे। लेकिन महामारी के दौरान इसमें बड़ी गिरावट आई। महामारी के बाद जब हालात सुधरे, तो हवाई किराये में तेजी से बढ़ोतरी हुई।

सामान्य vs वास्तविक आंकड़े (2015-2024):
Nominal हवाई किराया: अगस्त 2024 में यह 2015 की तुलना में 3% कम रहे। **Real** हवाई किराया: महंगाई के प्रभाव को देखते हुए ये 37% कम हुए। **जेट फ्यूल की कीमत:** 2% बढ़ी, जो उपभोक्ता महंगाई से ज्यादा है।



महंगाई से तुलना: हवाई किराये उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (CPI) और जेट फ्यूल की कीमतों की तुलना में धीमी गति से बढ़े।

नोट: असल में Nominal हवाई किराये से मतलब होता है महंगाई या अन्य कारणों को ध्यान में रखे बिना किराया, इसमें CPI (उपभोक्ता महंगाई) घटा दे तो Real हवाई किराये में हुई बढ़ोतरी मिलेगी।

भारत	Nominal फेयर में बदलाव	
	2015 से 2024	2019 से 2024
	↓ 12%	↑ 13%

	रियल एयरफेयर में बदलाव	
	2015 से 2024	2019 से 2024
	↑ 43%	↓ 15%

2025 का अनुमान

- घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय टिकट महंगे रह सकते हैं।
- जेट फ्यूल की कीमतों में भी बढ़ोतरी के आसार हैं।

“सिर्फ टिकट के दाम देखें तो ये 2019 की तुलना में बढ़े हैं। लेकिन जब हम इसे महंगाई, जेट फ्यूल की कीमतों में बदल के हिसाब से देखते हैं, तो असल में बढ़ोतरी ज्यादा नहीं है। मतलब, महंगाई को ध्यान में रखें तो हवाई टिकटों के दाम कम हुए हैं। - एक्सपर्ट

Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEERS

LUCKNOW

28 DECEMBER 2024

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

PIONEERS

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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.



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AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Corporate Communications Directorate

PIONEERS

LUCKNOW

28 DECEMBER 2024

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.



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RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

20 DECEMBER 2024

जबलपुर फ्लाइट भोपाल डायवर्ट

जबलपुर. दिल्ली से उड़ान भरकर जबलपुर आने वाली फ्लाइट शनिवार को भोपाल एयरपोर्ट पर डायवर्ट कर दी गई। मौसम खराब होने के कारण कम दृश्यता की स्थिति होने से हुआ। फिर दो घंटे बाद जैसे ही मौसम साफ हुआ, तो विमान उड़ान भर ली। दरअसल इंडिगो की एयरबस 320 के पायलट को जबलपुर में रनवे नहीं दिखा तो उसे भोपाल डायवर्ट कर दिया गया।



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SWATANTRA BHARAT

LUCKNOW

28 DECEMBER 2024

फ्लाइट में हैंडबैग पर नियम सख्त

नई दिल्ली। हवाई यात्रियों के लिए अब हैंडबैग से जुड़ी सख्त नियमावली लागू की जा रही है। ब्यूरो ऑफ सिविल एविएशन सिक्योरिटी (बीसीएएस) ने नई व्यवस्था के तहत यात्रियों को एक ही हैंडबैग या कैबिन बैग ले जाने



एक हैंडबैग की ही सीमा

आकार भी तय

की अनुमति दी है। यह नियम अगले महीने से घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय दोनों उड़ानों पर लागू होगा। सरकार का उद्देश्य इन नियमों के जरिए हवाई अड्डों पर बढ़ते यात्री दबाव को नियंत्रित करना और सुरक्षा जांच को अधिक प्रभावी बनाना है। एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक हर यात्री को अधिकतम एक ही हैंडबैग ले जाने की अनुमति होगी। इस बैग का वजन 7 किलोग्राम से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिए। अन्य सामान को चेक-इन लगेज के तौर पर ले जाना अनिवार्य होगा। कैबिन बैग का आकार 55 सेंटीमीटर ऊंचाई, 40 सेंटीमीटर लंबाई और 20 सेंटीमीटर चौड़ाई से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिए। यह नियम सभी

एयरलाइंस के लिए समान रहेगा, जिससे सुरक्षा जांच में आसानी होगी। यदि यात्री का बैग तय वजन या आकार से अधिक हुआ, तो अतिरिक्त शुल्क देना होगा। 2 मई 2024 से पहले बुक किए गए टिकट पर पुरानी नीति लागू होगी, जिसमें इकोनॉमी में 8 किलोग्राम, प्रीमियम इकोनॉमी में 10 किलोग्राम और फर्स्ट/बिजनेस क्लास में 12 किलोग्राम की सीमा है। हालांकि, इन टिकटों को दोबारा रि-शेड्यूल करने पर नई नीति लागू होगी। यूं तो पहले लगेज को लेकर फ्लाइट में इस तरह के ख़ास नियम लागू थे जिनका ध्यान यात्रियों को रखना पड़ता था। मगर एयर इंडिया और इंडिगो समेत सभी प्रमुख एयरलाइंस ने अपने बैगेज नियमों को नई गाइडलाइंस के अनुसार अपडेट कर दिया है।



Corporate Communications Directorate

STATESMAN

KOLKATA

28 DECEMBER 2024

IndiGo launches daily flights to Phuket: Travellers can now rejoice as IndiGo has launched a daily direct flight from Kolkata's Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport to the popular tourist destination of Phuket, Thailand. This new route is expected to meet the rising demand for seamless travel between India and Southeast Asia, offering greater convenience and boosting tourism and business ties. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) extended its best wishes to IndiGo for this milestone, highlighting its commitment to providing world-class infrastructure, safety, and operational efficiency to support such ventures. Phuket, renowned for its pristine beaches and vibrant nightlife, has long been a favorite destination for Indian travellers. With the introduction of this direct flight, passengers can now experience shorter travel times and improved accessibility. IndiGo officials expressed excitement about expanding their international network and serving the growing needs of Indian travelers.

Air India to focus on refitting carriers

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 tightening practices and processes to become profitable ultimately, 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".

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HIGH-FLYER

than 100 destinations in India and around the world.

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Further, he added that Air India's service standards will be elevated, raising the bar on what we consider 'good' and more consistently delivering to those new expectations.

Refitting of narrow-body

aircraft has commenced while that of legacy wide-body planes is expected to start in 2025.

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Its turnover rose 23.69 per cent to ₹38,812 crore in the last financial year compared with 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.

Among other initiatives to streamline the group's operations, Air India has optimised deploying its best narrow-body and wide-body products in high-density and high-demand routes.



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TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

28 DECEMBER 2024

“ We are not just consistent, we are efficient and, ultimately, profitable

Campbell Wilson,
Air India MD and CEO





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TIMES OF INDIA

CHENNAI

28 DECEMBER 2024

Audit reveals lapses: DGCA suspends two senior Akasa pilots

Saurabh Sinha
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New Delhi: Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Friday suspended the director training and director operations of Akasa for six months each and “advised” the airline to nominate “suitable candidate(s)”, that is, find replacements for these crucial positions.

The action came after a DGCA audit at Akasa’s Mumbai facility on Oct 7, 2024, found that “RNP (required navigation performance) training (approaches) is being conducted on simulators which have not been qualified for the same” — a serious safety lapse.

RNP approaches are practised in simulators to qualify cockpit crew as these approaches are available all over the world and are becoming the new norm. They are precise and accurate approaches with guidance in both the lateral and vertical planes to bring an aircraft close to the ground with high levels of accuracy as they work in conjunction with GNSS (satellite navigation) till the runway is visible.

The regulator, sources said, has told the airline that the two officials have “failed to



File photo

SOARING TROUBLES?

ensure compliance of civil aviation requirements (CAR or rules)”. It had issued a show-cause notice to the duo on Oct 30 and found their response “unsatisfactory”.

“The DGCA order has pointed out that the two officials have failed to train personnel adequately. Also, repeated lapses/violations have been found pertaining to training,” said people in the know.

“Akasa Air is in receipt of an order from DGCA dated Dec 27, 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 spokesperson said. Training at Akasa has, of late, emerged as a concern when the airline sought exemption from low visibility operations at Kolkata and Bengaluru this winter possibly due to a lack of pilots trained to carry out the same.