



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

22 MAY 2025

## IndiGo flight passengers miss storm narrowly

**Srinagar, May 21:** A Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight from Delhi with more than 220 people, including TMC MPs, on board encountered sudden hailstorm on Wednesday, prompting the pilot to report the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar. The aircraft later landed safely here and has been grounded, officials said.

Videos of the moments of turbulence shared on social media showed panic-stricken passengers could be heard making religious supplications as the plane swayed. Some passengers claimed that the nose of the plane was damaged but there was no official word on it.

"IndiGo flight 6E2142 en route Delhi to Srinagar experienced bad weather (hail storm), emergency reported by Pilot to ATC SXR (Srinagar)," an official of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) said here.

He said the flight landed safely at Srinagar at 6.30 pm. "All aircrew and 227 passengers are safe and the flight is declared AOG by the airline," he said. 'Aircraft on ground' (AOG) refers to a plane that is grounded and unable to fly due to technical issues.

■ Page 9: It was near-death experience, says Ghose

## GHOSE: IT WAS NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE

FROM PAGE 1

TMC MPs Derek O'Brien, Sagarika Ghose, Nadimul Haque, Mamata Thakur and Manas Bhuyan, was on board the plane. "It was a near-death experience. I thought my life was over. People were screaming, praying and panicking. Hats off to the pilot who brought us through that. When we landed we saw the nose of the plane had blown up," Sagarika Ghose

"I was in the plane and heading back home from Srinagar..It was a near-death experience... the nose of the plane is damaged," Owais Maqbool Hakeem (@owaismaqbool) posted on X.

"The Nose and Right side of the plane was damaged... And we were not allowed to see much as airforce police was there," Hakeem claimed in another post.

Another passenger said that around 20-30 minutes before landing at Srinagar, there was an announcement to fasten the seat belts as there was turbulence.

# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## IGI runway work may hit 100 flights daily

Neha LM Tripathi

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Passengers flying through Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport could face significant inconvenience starting next month, with airport authorities deciding to cancel and reschedule about 100 flights daily during a crucial runway maintenance period.

Approximately 50 flights will be cancelled and another 50 rescheduled starting June 15 until mid-September, three officials aware of the matter told HT, detailing plans for when runway 28/10 will be shut to upgrade the Instrument Landing System (ILS) to CAT III B standards—instruments that help pilots land in low visibility conditions common during Delhi's foggy winters.

The slashing of services comes after a similar attempt in April led to widespread chaos in flight schedules at the country's busiest airport, forcing authori-

ties to abandon the work.

An average of 721 arrivals and around an equal number of departures have been scheduled for the typical day during this period, one of the officials said. "After reviewing air traffic flow, aircraft rotations and operational dependencies, about 100 flights will need to be cancelled or shifted to off-peak hours," the official cited above said.

A second official said during a meeting chaired by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) chairman Vipin Kumar on Wednesday, major airlines (Air India group, IndiGo, Akasa Air and SpiceJet) presented a revised flight schedule. "The new schedule is expected to be filed (with the ministry) in the next week," the official added.

IndiGo and Air India, which have the largest number of services at IGI and therefore need to make most of the adjustments, did not respond to requests for a comment.

The April crisis exposed criti-



A similar attempt to curtail flights in April had led to widespread chaos in schedules at the country's busiest airport. HT ARCHIVE

cal coordination gaps in India's aviation ecosystem. Despite being informed in advance about the runway closure, airlines did not reduce their flight operations, triggering delays that cascaded throughout the country. The work, which began

on April 8, was stopped and the runway reopened on May 5 after civil aviation minister Ram Mohan Naidu intervened following widespread passenger complaints and a parliamentary standing committee expressed concerns over the disruptions.

The decision to suspend the work and reopen the runway was made keeping in mind the peak travel season in April and May, officials said. The closure resulted in Delhi airport's arrival capacity dropping from 46 flights per hour to around 36, with operations further affected when easterlies were in effect.

A third official said the June 15 to September window may be leaner. "It's better to take a small hit now than face large-scale delays when the fog sets in. This is all about being better prepared for winter," this official, with the aviation ministry, said, asking not to be named.

"Authorities have worked closely with airlines to ensure these adjustments have minimal impact on passengers," the first official cited said. "Cancellations have been targeted on routes where airlines operate multiple daily flights and where demand is lower, so seat availability remains sufficient."

"We will be in the non-peak

summer period, which means flights are operating with lower load factors; around 70-75%, compared to 85% or more during peak travel times," a ministry official said.

"Flights are mainly being rescheduled from peak to non-peak hours to stay within the airport's limited capacity during critical periods," an airline official requesting anonymity said. "Airlines are acting in coordination with airport operators and the civil aviation ministry to prevent major disruption later in the year (in the winter)."

The coordinated approach this time contrasts sharply with April, when airlines maintained full schedules despite advance notice of the runway closure.

Ministry officials said that the updated schedules expected to be filed by airlines next week will give passengers weeks' notice to plan their travel accordingly—unlike April when passengers faced last-minute delays and cancellations.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE

GUWAHATI

22 MAY 2025

# LGBI Airport registers significant growth

**The airport successfully managed 6.57 million passengers, with 3.26 million domestic arrivals and 3.30 million domestic departures, and 91,594 international passengers – a record high for international passengers**

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, May 21: Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport, Guwahati, has witnessed significant growth in FY 2024-25.

The airport successfully managed 6.57 million passengers, with 3.26 million domestic arrivals and 3.30 million domestic departures, and 91,594 international passengers – a record high for international passengers. On December 12, 2024, the airport achieved a single-day record, serving 21,444 passengers, including transit travellers.

LGBI Airport – managed by Adani Airport Holdings Limited (AAHL) – has expanded its international route network, introducing direct flights to Paro (Bhutan), Malaysia and Singapore, contributing to increased international passen-

ger traffic and Aircraft Traffic Movements (ATMs). The airport recorded 45,409 domestic ATMs and 1,009 international ATMs.

The airport has also launched three new domestic routes: Guwahati-Ahmedabad, Guwahati-Durgapur, and Guwahati-Ziro, enhancing connectivity and fostering trade, tourism, and cultural exchange, official sources said.

LGBI Airport achieved substantial growth in cargo, with 12,893 metric tonnes (MT) of cargo handled in FY 24-25, compared to 4,550 MT in FY 23-24, marking an impressive 183.91% increase year-on year – the highest volume processed since COD. Notably, LGBI Airport handled 225 metric tonnes of perishable cargo in December 2024, among the highest-ever volumes managed in a month.

In recognition of its commitment to exceptional customer experiences, LGBI Airport has attained Level 2 of the Airports Council International (ACI) Airport Customer Experience Accreditation. Additionally, LGBI Airport has been recognized for its sustainability efforts, winning the Greentech PCWR Award 2024 in the Waste Management & Recycling Leadership category.

LGBI Airport has enhanced its DigiYatra facilities with a dedicated DigiYatra lane featuring four DY-enabled e-gates, ensuring a more streamlined passenger experience. Additionally, one more e-gate has been installed in the pre-security check area, bringing the total number of e-gates in this section to six, further improving efficiency and convenience for travellers.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

---

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

---

## Celebi's clearance revoked amid unprecedented situation: Centre

**BHAVINI MISHRA**  
New Delhi, 22 May

The Centre on Thursday told the Delhi High Court that it could not give Turkey-based Çelebi Airport Services Private Limited reasons for revoking its security clearance as it would have "defeated the purpose of the action".

"The country sometimes faces a situation that is so unprecedented that neither an opportunity of hearing is possible because delay itself might defeat the object of the act, nor it is possible to give reasons for the action because that again defeats the purpose of the action. That is when plenary power comes in," said Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appearing for the Centre.

The court was hearing a plea filed by Çelebi Airport Services Private Limited challenging the decision of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) revoking its security clearance.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DESHBANDHU

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## अमृतसर एयरपोर्ट पर जल्द ही मुफ्त वाईफाई सुविधा उपलब्ध होगी: साहनी

■ पिछले कुछ समय में यहां यात्रियों की संख्या में तेजी से वृद्धि हुई है, इसलिए इसके टर्मिनल का विस्तार करने की आवश्यकता

अमृतसर, 22 मई (एजेंसियां)। अमृतसर में श्री गुरु रामदास अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे की पर्यावरण समिति की बैठक में भाग लेने के बाद जिला उपायुक्त साक्षी साहनी ने कहा कि जल्द ही हवाई अड्डे पर यात्रियों के लिए मुफ्त वाईफाई सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी। श्रीमती साहनी ने गुरुवार को कहा कि वाईफाई सुविधा उपलब्ध करवाने के लिए कार्य प्रगति पर है तथा शीघ्र ही यह सुविधा आम जनता को उपलब्ध करवा दी जाएगी। उन्होंने बताया कि आज की बैठक में अमृतसर शहर के 450वें स्थापना दिवस को



मनाने के लिए की जा रही तैयारियों पर भी एयरपोर्ट प्रबंधन के साथ चर्चा की गई। उन्होंने कहा कि ये आयोजन बहुत बड़े स्तर पर होंगे, इसलिए देश-विदेश से लाखों श्रद्धालुओं के साथ-साथ अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर की हस्तियां भी आयोजनों में भाग लेने के लिए आएंगी, इसलिए इन यात्रियों के आगमन को लेकर एयरपोर्ट पर की जाने वाली तैयारियों पर भी आयोजकों के

साथ चर्चा की गई। जिला उपायुक्त ने कहा कि अमृतसर हवाई अड्डे को टर्मिनल में विस्तारित करने का मुद्दा भी बैठक का हिस्सा था। उन्होंने कहा कि इस संबंध में सरकार को प्रस्ताव भेज दिया गया है। यदि इसका विस्तार किया जाता है तो अमृतसर हवाई अड्डा एनआरआई और पर्यटकों के लिए पंजाब का प्रवेश द्वार साबित हो सकता है। पिछले कुछ समय में यहां यात्रियों की संख्या में तेजी से वृद्धि हुई है, इसलिए इसके टर्मिनल का विस्तार करने की आवश्यकता है। उन्होंने कहा कि वर्तमान में इसका क्षेत्रफल 40 हजार वर्ग मीटर है और इसकी क्षमता 1600 पर्यटकों की है, लेकिन पर्यटकों की लगातार बढ़ती आमद के कारण इसमें 10 हजार वर्ग मीटर का क्षेत्रफल जोड़ने और पर्यटकों की क्षमता करीब 2000 करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## IGI runway work may affect 100 flights a day

**Neha LM Tripathi**

[letters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:letters@hindustantimes.com)

**NEW DELHI:** Passengers flying through Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport could face significant inconvenience starting next month, with airport authorities deciding to cancel and reschedule about 100 flights daily during a crucial runway maintenance period.

Approximately 50 flights will be cancelled and another 50 rescheduled starting June 15 until mid-September, three officials aware of the matter told HT, detailing plans for when runway 28/10 will be shut to

upgrade the Instrument Landing System (ILS) to CAT III B standards—instruments that help pilots land in low visibility conditions common during Delhi's foggy winters.

The slashing of services comes after a similar attempt in April led to widespread chaos in flight schedules at the country's busiest airport, forcing authorities to abandon the work.

"After reviewing air traffic flow and aircraft rotations and operational dependencies, about 100 individual flights will need to be either cancelled or shifted to off-peak hours," one official cited above said. →

International market data till 1900 IST

## Celebi moves Bombay HC against India security clearance revocation, airport contract cancellations

**SUKALP SHARMA**  
NEW DELHI, MAY 22

TURKEY-HEADQUARTERED airport ground handling services major Celebi has moved the Bombay High Court against the revocation of its security clearance by the Centre and the consequent termination of its contracts with Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL), the operator of Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. The lawsuits — three in total — have been filed by the Celebi's subsidiary Celebi Nas Airport Services India, which operated at the Mumbai airport.

The lawsuits follow a case filed by two other Celebi subsidiaries — Celebi Airport Services India and Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management India — before the Delhi High Court against the security clearance revocation and the resultant cancellation of Celebi contracts by the Delhi airport operator. The matter is being heard by the Delhi High Court.

"Now, regarding our Mumbai operations; our subsidiary Celebi Nas Airport Services India Pvt Ltd ('Celebi Nas') in which our Company holds 59 per cent of the capital filed three different lawsuits before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Mumbai on 21.05.2025," parent company Celebi Hava Servisi said in a regulatory filing in Turkey on Thursday.

The three cases include a law-

### THREE LAWSUITS FILED BY CELEBI

**CELEBI AIRPORT Services India and Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management India filed a case before the Delhi High Court against the security clearance revocation and the resultant cancellation of Celebi contracts by the Delhi airport operator**

**THE THREE** cases include a

lawsuit seeking the suspension and annulment of the security clearance cancellation by the BCAS, and two arbitration applications against Adani group-owned MIAL seeking the annulment of its termination of contracts with Celebi Nas, and urgent interim measures to restrain MIAL to conclude the tenders for a new ground handling agency

suit seeking the suspension and annulment of the security clearance cancellation by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), and two arbitration applications against Adani group-owned MIAL seeking the annulment of its termination of contracts with Celebi Nas, and urgent interim measures to restrain MIAL to conclude the tenders for selection of new ground handling agency for the Mumbai airport.

The first case has been filed against the Union of India, BCAS, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Airports Authority of India (AAI), and the regional office of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA).

Amid the backlash in India over Turkey's support for Pakistan in the India-Pakistan conflict, India's aviation security regulator

BCAS last Thursday revoked the security clearance of an Indian arm — Celebi Airport Services India — of Celebi on grounds related to "national security" with immediate effect. The revocation also applies to other associate entities of Celebi in India. This led to Indian airports where Celebi group operated terminating their contracts with group companies. Defending itself, Celebi Airport Services India said that it is "truly an Indian enterprise" led and managed by Indian professionals, and is "not a Turkish organisation by any standard".

The airports and airlines that were working with Celebi are turning to the other major ground handling players in India's aviation sector like AI Airport Services, Air India SATS Airport Services, and the Bird group.





# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE MORNING STANDARD

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## YEIDA to develop 35-km green corridor to Noida Int'l Airport

DIPIKA KIROLA

**GREATER NOIDA:** The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has proposed to develop a green corridor along the Yamuna Expressway enabling visitors to experience a green and beautiful corridor, said officials.

As per officials, the authority plans to establish a 35 km green belt leading to Noida Airport, with an investment of Rs 692. A sixty-metre wide road connects to the Yamuna Authority sectors, running parallel to the Yamuna Expressway, separated by a hundred-metre wide green belt.

The green belt transformation will stretch from the Sector 17A entrance to Noida Airport. According to Chief Executive Officer Dr Arunvir Singh, the authority will introduce diverse plant species to enhance the aesthetic appeal.

The development includes musical fountains, seating arrangements, sculptures,



**The development includes musical fountains, seating arrangements, sculptures, theme-based landscaping with pedestrian footpaths: YEIDA**

and theme-based landscaping with pedestrian footpaths. Local residents will have access to these green spaces for leisure activities.

YEIDA officials also

informed that the fuel pipeline project from Faridabad, Haryana to Jewar is in its final stage of completion. Bharat Petroleum has installed a 34-kilometre underground pipeline for aviation turbine fuel (ATF), connecting Pyala depots to Noida Airport. The pipeline installation beneath the Jewar canal to the airport's oil depots, spanning 1.2 km, is nearly finished.

The fuel supply system will be operational once the connection is established. Following a recent review, the Chief Secretary has set June 30 as the deadline for completing all construction work.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

RAJASTHAN PATRIKA

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## भारत को वैश्विक पहचान दिला रहे अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे व स्टेशन

नई दिल्ली @ पत्रिका ब्यूरो. रेलवे बोर्ड की पूर्व अध्यक्ष जया वर्मा सिन्हा ने कहा कि विकसित भारत के लक्ष्य को साकार करने के लिए देश में परिवर्तन तीव्र गति से और स्पष्ट रूप से हो रहा है, जिसे हर नागरिक सहजता से देख और अनुभव कर सकते हैं। यह विकास अब केवल



रेलवे बोर्ड की पूर्व अध्यक्ष जया वर्मा सिन्हा नीतियों और राजनीतिक भाषणों तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह भवनों, सड़कों और प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में भी स्पष्ट रूप से दिखाई दे रहा है।

वर्मा ने मीडिया से बातचीत में कहा कि देश में बने एक्सप्रेसवे पर यात्रा करते हुए यह महसूस होता है कि राज्यों के बीच संपर्क में सुधार हुआ है और यात्रा अधिक सुगम हो गई है। इसका उदाहरण वे आधुनिक हवाई अड्डे हैं और अब रेलवे स्टेशनों में हो रहे बदलाव हैं, जो अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों से मेल खाते हुए भारत को एक वैश्विक पहचान दिला रहे हैं। यह

परिवर्तन स्मार्ट शहरों के निर्माण के हिस्से के रूप में हो रहा है, जहां आधुनिक तकनीक, स्मार्ट भवनों और दीर्घकालिक योजनाओं के माध्यम से विकास को गति मिल रही है।

उन्होंने कहा कि पहले रेलवे का नजरअंदाज किया गया था, लेकिन अब यह भी इस परिवर्तन का हिस्सा बन चुका है। भारतीय रेलवे स्टेशनों को पहले केवल भीड़-भाड़ वाले, नीरस स्थान के रूप में जाना जाता था, लेकिन अब उन्हें आधुनिक रूप में तब्दील किया जा रहा है। इनका उद्देश्य केवल एक यात्री के आवागमन की सुविधा नहीं, बल्कि एक सांस्कृतिक केंद्र और शहरों की पहचान के रूप में उभरना है। पहले जहां स्टेशन केवल यातायात का केंद्र थे, वहीं अब ये एक नई पहचान और उच्चतम मानक वाली सुविधाओं के साथ विकसित हो रहे हैं। अमृत भारत स्टेशन परियोजना इस बदलाव का केंद्र बिंदु है। रेलवे की अगुवाई में, इस परियोजना के तहत देशभर में 1,300 से ज्यादा रेलवे स्टेशनों का जीर्णोद्धार किया जा रहा है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ASIAN AGE

DELHI

22 MAY 2025

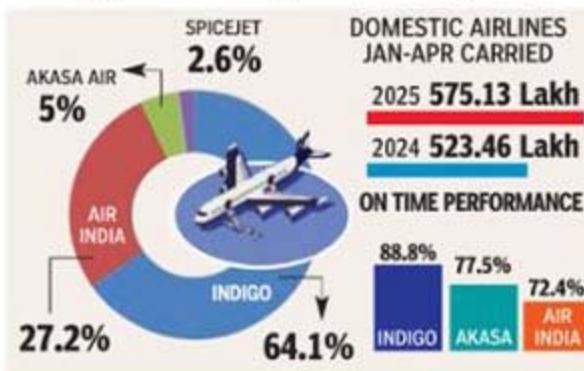
## Domestic air traffic up 8.4%, 143L passengers fly in April

**New Delhi, May 21:** Indian airlines flew 143.6 lakh passengers on domestic routes in April, 8.45 per cent more as compared to 132 lakh in the same period a year-ago period, amid rising air traffic demand.

In terms of domestic market share, IndiGo topped the list with 64.1 per cent of the pie, followed by Air India Group (27.2 per cent), Akasa Air (5 per cent) and SpiceJet (2.6 per cent), according to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-April were 575.13 lakh as against 523.46 lakh during the corresponding period of previous year thereby registering an annual growth of 9.87 per cent and monthly growth of 8.45 per cent," DGCA said in its monthly report.

The on time performance (OTP) of scheduled domestic airlines - computed for airports at Bengaluru, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai - IndiGo's OTP stood at 80.8 per cent while that of Akasa Air and Air India was 77.5 per cent and 72.4 per cent, respectively. — PTI



## InterGlobe Q4 net up 62% to ₹3,067 cr

**New Delhi, May 21:** InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of IndiGo, on Wednesday posted its highest-ever fourth quarter profit after tax (PAT) of ₹3,067.5 crore, mainly helped by strong air travel demand.

The company's PAT in the three months ended March 2025 jumped 62 per cent from ₹1,894.8 crore in the year-ago period.

Total income rose to ₹23,097.5 crore in the

fourth quarter of the 2024-25 financial year from ₹18,505.1 crore in the same period a year ago.

"Driven by strong demand for air travel and execution of our strategy, for FY25, IndiGo reported a healthy net profit of ₹72,584 million. Excluding the impact of foreign exchange, IndiGo reported a net profit of ₹88,676 million, maintaining similar strong performance to the last year," it said. — PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

AMAR UJALA

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## खतरे में थी 220 यात्रियों की जान, पाकिस्तान ने इंडिगो के पायलट को नहीं दी अपने हवाई क्षेत्र से गुजरने की अनुमति

नई दिल्ली। पाकिस्तान की अमानवीय हरकत सामने आई है। दिल्ली से श्रीनगर जा रहे जिस इंडिगो विमान को ओलावृष्टि के चलते बुधवार को आपात स्थिति में लैंडिंग करनी पड़ी थी, उसके पायलट ने पाकिस्तान के हवाई क्षेत्र को इस्तेमाल करने की इजाजत मांगी थी। विमान में 222 से अधिक यात्री सवार थे, लेकिन पाकिस्तान ने



इस्तेमाल की अनुमति नहीं दी।

हालांकि पायलट की सूझबूझ से उड़ान 6ई2142 को श्रीनगर में सफल

लैंडिंग हुई। ओलावृष्टि से विमान का अगला हिस्सा क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया था।

नागरिक उड़्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) हवा में तेज झटके लगने का शिकार हुई उड़ान मामले की जांच कर रहा है। बुधवार को जब विमान अमृतसर के ऊपर से उड़ान भर रहा था, तब पायलट ने विमान को मौसम के कारण प्रतिकूल स्थिति में पाया।

उसने लाहौर हवाई यातायात नियंत्रण (एटीसी) से अनुमति मांगी थी। अनुमति न मिलने पर विमान को उसी रास्ते पर आगे बढ़ाना पड़ा, जहाँ उसे हवा में तेज झटकों और ओलावृष्टि का सामना करना पड़ा था। बता दें कि पहलवाम आतंकी हमले के बाद दोनों देशों ने एक-दूसरे के लिए अपने हवाई क्षेत्र बंद कर रखे हैं। ब्यूरो



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS LINE

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## ‘Star Air to expand domestically before going global’

**Rohit Vaid**  
New Delhi

Regional airline Star Air will focus on expanding its domestic network and increasing flight frequencies before pursuing international operations, the airline’s Chief Executive Officer Simran Singh Tiwana said *businessline*.

“We will first commence flight operations to new domestic destinations and increase frequencies. We are looking at starting flights to four-five new cities this year,” Tiwana said.

The airline currently operates to 25 cities.

“However, under our three-year strategy, we are progressively making preparations for international operations by inducting air-

craft and increasing capacity. These operations are expected to take place by the first quarter of FY28,” he said.

Star Air is set to expand its fleet to 25 aircraft over the next 36 months to enhance domestic connectivity and support the regional air connectivity UDAN scheme, said the CEO.

“As part of this growth plan, the airline will induct two Embraer E175 aircraft in FY26, followed by four additional aircraft in FY27. Currently, we are operating a fleet of 10 Embraer jets,” Tiwana said.

### ROOM FOR GROWTH

He pointed to the untapped potential in regions such as north Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, eastern Maharashtra, Punjab and Haryana,



Star Air’s CEO  
Simran Singh Tiwana

where economic activity is on the rise.

“Industrial corridors and emerging tier-3 cities like Kolhapur, Sindhadurg, Jamnagar and Belagavi are prime

examples of where enhanced connectivity can catalyse regional growth. Similarly, religious and cultural hubs such as Ayodhya, Shirdi, Tirupati, and Nanded are witnessing increasing footfall as domestic tourism surges,” he said.

“With a fuel-efficient Embraer fleet and the agility to operate from smaller airports, we are uniquely positioned to serve these markets. Our strategy is to be the first mover in regions where demand exists but remains underserved by larger carriers.”

Some of the new destinations expected in FY26 include parts of Odisha, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, Tiwana hinted.

Further, he estimated that the industry is poised for

strong growth, with domestic air passenger traffic to rise approximately 7 per cent in 2025-26.

### RAPID ROLL OUT

On the other hand, Tiwana cited that the global economic uncertainties could create headwinds for the travel and tourism sector, potentially dampening discretionary spending and business travel.

“Adding to this complexity is the slowed pace of aircraft inductions by several Indian carriers, due to the supply chain constraints and financial pressures,” Tiwana said. “We are well-positioned on this front, with a steady fleet expansion plan in place and no disruptions to our aircraft induction pipeline,” he said.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

BUSINESS STANDARD

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## IndiGo soars despite valuation air pocket

Geopolitical risks cloud InterGlobe Aviation's near-term outlook

RAM PRASAD SAHU  
Mumbai, 22 May

InterGlobe Aviation, India's largest airline and the operator of IndiGo, posted its highest ever fourth-quarter profit, bolstered by lower unit costs and higher yields.

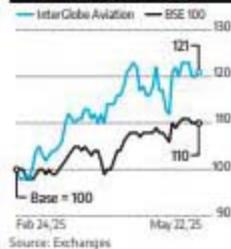
The airline's healthy operating performance was largely driven by a 24 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) increase in revenue, with passenger revenue rising 25 per cent and ancillary income growing at a similar pace.

Operating profit margins before rentals and adjusted for forex changes stood at a robust 30.8 per cent. This was underpinned by a 2.2 per cent increase in yields to ₹5.32, aided in part by strong demand during the Mahakumbh. Passenger volumes surged 20 per cent Y-o-Y, while revenue passenger kilometres rose 23 per cent.

A key contributor to the margin expansion was a 6.6 per cent drop in fuel unit costs to ₹1.60 per seat kilometre, thanks to a 9 per cent decline in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices.

Analysts led by Aditya Mongia of Kotak Research noted that this marks the second consecutive quarter in which IndiGo has retained the full benefit of falling crude prices — a trend that may persist as current ATF prices remain 10 per cent below the Q4 average.

Despite the robust Q4 showing and encouraging medium-term prospects, some brokerages remain cautious in the near term. The ongoing India-Pakistan conflict has triggered a wave of flight cancellations and weakened booking trends, which are likely to impact the June quarter (Q1FY26). Passenger traffic outlook remains uncertain, though capacity is expected to grow in the mid-teens year-on-year.



Jal Irani of Nuvama Research expressed concern that capacity expansion may outpace demand in the short term, exerting pressure on yields. Nuvama has trimmed its FY26 operating profit forecast by 3 per cent, citing the expected adverse impact on demand and pricing. The brokerage maintains a "hold" rating, suggesting current valuations limit upside potential despite underlying positives.

On the other hand, Prabhudas Lilladher remains upbeat with a "buy" rating. Analysts led by Jinesh Joshi highlight several long-term growth levers, including IndiGo's strategy to deepen

international operations — with global capacity set to rise 40 per cent by FY30 — and its focus on premium offerings.

The recent rollout of 'IndiGo Stretch' across five routes and the decreasing count of grounded aircraft are also seen as key enablers for growth and margin improvement. While short-term turbulence remains, IndiGo's structural strengths and strategic initiatives continue to position it well for long-term gains.

Elara Securities is positive on the stock given the softening crude oil price, higher primary aircraft delivery to IndiGo, capacity expansion at major airports, and the return of the grounded Pratt & Whitney fleet.

On the other hand, competitors face constraints to aggressively add capacity unless Boeing improves its global operations in a sustained manner. Analysts led by Gagan Dixit have reiterated a "buy" rating and increased earnings by 14 per cent in FY26 and 13 per cent in FY27.

The firm's profit rose 61.9 per cent Y-o-Y to touch ₹3,068 crore, driven by a surge in travel demand during the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj, an extended wedding season, a sharp reduction in the number of grounded aircraft over the last few quarters, and effective cost control.

The consolidated net profit for FY25 stood at ₹7,258 crore, a drop of 11.2 per cent Y-o-Y. "There was a temporary moderation in demand, led by elections and heatwave, in the first half of the year," IndiGo Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pieter Elbers said during the post-results conference call with analysts.

"In the fourth quarter, we served the highest number of passengers in any quarter. We also posted the highest fourth-quarter profit for any year since our inception," he added.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN CHRONICLE

HYDERABAD

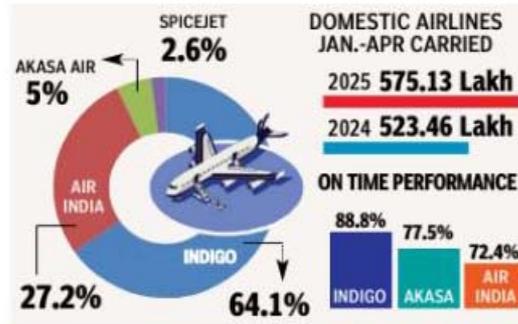
22 MAY 2025

# Domestic air traffic up 8.4%, 143L passengers fly in April

**New Delhi, May 21:** Indian airlines flew 143.6 lakh passengers on domestic routes in April, 8.45 per cent more as compared to 132 lakh in the same period a year-ago period, amid rising air traffic demand.

In terms of domestic market share, IndiGo topped the list with 64.1 per cent of the pie, followed by Air India Group (27.2 per cent), Akasa Air (5 per cent) and SpiceJet (2.6 per cent), according to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

"Passengers carried by airlines during January-



April were 575.13 lakh as against 523.46 lakh during same period of previous year thereby registering

an annual growth of 9.87 per cent and monthly growth of 8.45 per cent," DGCA said. —PTI



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE DAILY GUARDIAN

DELHI

22 MAY 2025

## IndiGo posts highest Q4 profit of Rs 3,068 crore

**TGG NETWORK**  
NEW DELHI

InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of the country's largest airline IndiGo, on Wednesday posted its highest-ever fourth quarter profit after tax of Rs 3,067.5 crore, mainly helped by strong air travel demand.

The company's profit after tax in the three months ended March 2025 jumped

62 per cent from Rs 1,894.8 crore in the year-ago period. Its board has recommended a dividend of Rs 10 per equity share.

In the fourth quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal, IndiGo's capacity increased 21 per cent to 42.1 billion while the number of passengers carried rose 19.6 per cent to 31.9 million, according to a release. Total income rose to Rs 23,097.5 crore in the



fourth quarter of the 2024-25 financial year from Rs 18,505.1 crore in the same period a year ago.

"Driven by strong demand for air travel and execution of our strategy, for the financial year ended March 2025,

IndiGo reported a healthy net profit of Rs 72,584 million. Excluding the impact of foreign exchange, IndiGo reported a net profit of Rs 88,676 million, maintaining similar strong performance to the last year.

"For the quarter ended March 2025, IndiGo reported a net profit of Rs 30,675 million, the highest fourth quarter ever," the release said.

The Daily Guardian

epaper.thedailyguardian.com  
22 May 2025 - Page 11

# PAKISTAN EXTENDS AIRSPACE BAN ON INDIAN FLIGHTS BY ONE MONTH

The ban was imposed for a month until May 23, as under International Civil Aviation Organisation rules

AGENCIES  
ISLAMABAD

**P**akistan has decided to extend the closure of its airspace for Indian flights by another month, a media report said on Wednesday.

Pakistan banned its airspace for India last month after steps taken by New Delhi in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack on April 22.

The ban was imposed for a month until May 23, as under International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) rules that airspace restrictions cannot be imposed for more than one month at a time.

Quoting sources, Geo News reported that the decision to extend the ban is expected to be announced on Wednesday or Thursday, and a Notice to Airmen (Notam) will be issued. The development comes amid heightened tensions between the two neighbours



following India's precision strikes under 'Operation Sindoor' on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people.

The Indian military has been maintaining that Pakistan pleaded for stopping the military actions after India hit eight military installations in Pakistan on early May 10 in response to Pakistan's attempts to target

Indian military bases.

This is not the first time Pakistan has imposed such restrictions. Pakistan closed its airspace for Indian flights during the 1999 Kargil conflict and the 2019 Pulwama crisis. In retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people—mostly Hindu tourists—India launched strikes on Pakistani military installations. The attack, which India blamed on Pakistan-backed militants, prompted a swift

response. On May 10, Indian forces targeted eight Pakistani military sites after Pakistan attempted to strike Indian military bases. Pakistan, while denying involvement in the Pahalgam incident, requested a halt to escalating hostilities.

Amid rising tensions, Pakistan closed its airspace to Indian flights—an action consistent with past conflicts such as the 1999 Kargil War and the 2019 Pulwama crisis. In a reciprocal

move, New Delhi banned Pakistan-registered aircraft, including military planes, from Indian airspace starting midnight on April 30. It remains uncertain whether India will extend or modify this airspace restriction.

The airspace closures have disrupted flight routes, particularly affecting services from North India to regions such as Central Asia, the Caucasus, West Asia, Europe, the UK, and North America. Airlines are now forced to take longer flight paths, leading to increased fuel consumption and higher operational costs. These changes are also complicating payload management for many carriers.

Industry insiders estimate that the rerouting could push international fares up by 8–12 percent for Indian carriers. The situation has introduced significant logistical and economic challenges for airlines, passengers, and cargo services alike.



The Delhi-Srinagar IndiGo flight that hit turbulence mid-air due to inclement weather. PTI

## Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight caught in hailstorm; narrow escape, say passengers

SRINAGAR, PTI: A Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight from Delhi with more than 220 people, including TMC MPs, on board encountered a sudden hailstorm on Wednesday, prompting the pilot to report the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar. The aircraft later landed safely here and has been grounded, officials said.

Videos of the moments of turbulence shared on social media showed panic-stricken passengers could be heard making religious supplications as the plane swayed.

Some passengers claimed that the nose of the plane was damaged, but there was no official word on it.

"IndiGo flight 6E2142 en

route Delhi to Srinagar experienced bad weather (hail storm), emergency reported by Pilot to ATC SXR (Srinagar)," an official of the Airport Authority of India said here. He said the flight landed safely at Srinagar at 6.30 pm.

"All aircrew and 227 passengers are safe and the flight is declared AOG by the airline," he said. 'Aircraft on ground' (AOG) refers to a plane that is grounded and unable to fly due to technical issues.

Five Trinamool Congress MPs, who were flying to meet people affected by the recent cross-border shelling near the LoC, were also in the aircraft. "It was a near death experience," TMC MP Sagarika Ghose said.

A passenger said that around 20-30 minutes before landing at Srinagar, there was an announcement to fasten the seat belts.

"Within two to three minutes of the announcement, there was so much turbulence that all felt it would be our last flight... I am a frequent flyer, but I have never experienced such turbulence. But I am very thankful to the pilot for making a safe landing," the passenger said.

Later, in a statement, IndiGo said its flight from the national capital to Srinagar encountered a sudden hailstorm and the plane landed safely at the Srinagar airport.

"The aircraft will be released post-necessary inspection and maintenance," it added.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DECCAN HERALD

BANGALORE

22 MAY 2025

## Strong air travel props IndiGo's Q4 profit to its highest

NEW DELHI, PTI

InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of the country's largest airline IndiGo, on Wednesday posted its highest ever fourth-quarter profit after tax of Rs 3,067.5 crore, mainly helped by strong air travel demand.

The company's profit after tax in the three months ended March 2025 jumped 62% from Rs 1,894.8 crore in the year-ago period. Its board has recommended a dividend of Rs 10 per equity share.

In the fourth quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal, IndiGo's capacity increased by 21% to 42.1 billion while the number of passengers carried rose 19.6% to 31.9 million, according to a release.

Total income rose to Rs 23,097.5 crore in the fourth quarter of the 2024-25 financial year from Rs 18,505.1 crore in the same period a year ago.

"Driven by strong demand for air travel and execution of our strategy, for the financial year ended March 2025, IndiGo reported a healthy net profit of Rs 72,584 million. Excluding the impact of foreign exchange, IndiGo reported a net profit of Rs 88,676 million, maintaining similar strong performance to the last year.

"For the quarter ended March 2025, IndiGo reported a net profit of Rs 30,675 million, the highest fourth quarter ever," the release said.

In the March quarter, IndiGo's passenger ticket revenues climbed 25.4% to Rs 195,673 million and ancillary revenues increased 25.2% to Rs 21,525



### 'Govt to decide on renewing IndiGo's lease of Turkish Airlines planes'

IndiGo is fully compliant with all regulatory frameworks and regulations for operating flights with planes leased from Turkish Airlines, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said on Wednesday and also mentioned that it is for the government to decide on the renewal of the leases.

This, even as he declined to comment on the reports that rival Air India has asked the government to review IndiGo's partnership with Turkish Airlines. He deflected on the subject saying, "we move on serving our customers".

The comments also come in the backdrop of

aviation watchdog BCAS, on May 15, revoking the security clearance for Turkish company Celebi Airport Services India Pvt Ltd in the "interest of national security".

IndiGo is operating direct flights to Istanbul with two leased Boeing 777 aircraft from Turkish Airlines having over 500 seats each. It also offers codeshare seats to more than 40 points in Europe and the US through the codeshare partnership with the Turkish carrier.

The current leases for the two Turkish Airlines planes are ending this month.

million compared to the same period a year ago.

At a briefing about the results, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers said the airline carried 118 million passengers in 2024-25.

According to Elbers, the number of grounded aircraft is currently in the 40s, declining from the 50s in the fourth quarter and 60s in the third quarter.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## इंडिगो के विमान को पाकिस्तान ने नहीं दी थी अपने हवाई क्षेत्र के उपयोग की मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : ओलावृष्टि के चलते टर्बुलेंस का सामना करने वाले इंडिगो के विमान को पाकिस्तान ने अपने हवाई क्षेत्र के इस्तेमाल की अनुमति नहीं दी थी। यह विमान दिल्ली से श्रीनगर जा रहा था। टर्बुलेंस से बचने के लिए पायलट ने पाकिस्तान के लाहौर एयर ट्रांजिट कंट्रोल (एटीसी) से अनुमति मांगी थी, लेकिन लाहौर एटीसी ने इस अनुरोध को अस्वीकार कर दिया था। टर्बुलेंस का शिकार हुई उड़ान 6ई2142 के मामले की जांच नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) कर रहा है।

गौरतलब है कि बुधवार को तृणमूल कांग्रेस के सांसदों समेत 220 से अधिक लोगों को ले जा रहे विमान को ओलावृष्टि के कारण



इंडिगो का क्षतिग्रस्त विमान ● फाइल फोटो

टर्बुलेंस से जूझना पड़ा था। टर्बुलेंस की घटना तब होती है जब हवा की गति में अचानक बदलाव हो जाता है।

पायलट ने श्रीनगर हवाई अड्डे पर एयर ट्रांजिट कंट्रोल को

“इमरजेंसी” की सूचना दी। पायलट की सूझबूझ से विमान की सुरक्षित लैंडिंग हुई। सभी यात्री सुरक्षित हैं। हालांकि विमान को काफी नुकसान हुआ है। विमान में सवार तृणमूल कांग्रेस के सदस्यों में ममता ठाकुर डेरेक ओ'ब्रायन, नदीमुल हक, सागरिका घोष, मानस भुनिया शामिल थे।

गौरतलब है कि पहलगाम आतंकी हमले के बाद भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव और भारतीय सेना के आपरेशन सिंदूर के बाद से पाकिस्तान ने अपना हवाई क्षेत्र भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों के लिए बंद कर दिया है। भारत ने भी पाकिस्तानी विमानन कंपनियों के लिए अपना हवाई क्षेत्र बंद कर रखा है।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

DAINIK JAGRAN

KANPUR

22 MAY 2025

## घरेलू पांच तो 25 प्रतिशत बढ़ गए अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के यात्री

जागरण संवाददाता, लखनऊ : चौधरी चरण सिंह एयरपोर्ट से यात्रा करने वाले अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के यात्रियों की संख्या घरेलू यात्रियों की अपेक्षा तेजी से बढ़ रही है। वर्ष 2024-25 में अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों से यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या में 25 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्ज की है। इसी तरह घरेलू यात्रियों की संख्या पांच प्रतिशत बढ़ी है। एयरपोर्ट प्रशासन ने बुधवार को लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट की एयर ट्रैफिक की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट जारी कर दी है।

लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-3 पर विमान संचालन शुरू होने के बाद यह पहली एयर ट्रैफिक रिपोर्ट है। इस रिपोर्ट में एयरपोर्ट पर विमानों की आवाजाही, यात्रियों की संख्या, कार्गो की दुलाई सहित कई सेवाओं में वृद्धि या कमी दर्ज की जाती है। एयरपोर्ट के टर्मिनल-3 पर घरेलू यात्रियों के लिए उड़ानें 21 अप्रैल 2024 से, जबकि अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानें 19 जून 2024 को शुरू हुई थी। टर्मिनल-3 के शुरू होने के बाद एक वर्ष में अब तक सबसे अधिक 70.20 लाख यात्रियों ने वर्ष 2024-25 में यात्रा का रिकार्ड बनाया है। इससे पहले वर्ष 2023-24 में यह रिकार्ड 65.20 लाख यात्रियों का था। वर्ष 2024-25



में लखनऊ से भोपाल, अलीगढ़, आजमगढ़, चित्रकूट, मुरादाबाद, श्रावस्ती, भुवनेश्वर, झारसुगुड़ा, श्रीनगर और मोषा (उत्तर गोवा) जैसे 10 घरेलू गंतव्यों के लिए नई उड़ानें शुरू हुई हैं। इस कारण 57.80 लाख घरेलू यात्रियों ने वर्ष 2024-25 में लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट से यात्रा की है।

वर्ष 2023-24 की तुलना में यह पांच प्रतिशत अधिक है। इसी तरह रस-अल-खैमाह, कुआलालंपुर, बैंकाक जैसे तीन अंतरराष्ट्रीय गंतव्यों को जोड़ने के साथ मस्कट और दम्मम के लिए उड़ानों की संख्या बढ़ी है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के यात्रियों की संख्या 2024-25 में 25 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 12.50 लाख हो गई। वर्ष 2023-24 में यह संख्या 10 लाख थी। इस साल 13 जनवरी से 26 फरवरी तक प्रयागराज में आयोजित महाकुंभ के दौरान लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट पर यात्रियों की संख्या बढ़ी। आठ फरवरी को एक दिन में सबसे अधिक 24,297 यात्रियों ने लखनऊ एयरपोर्ट से यात्रा की।



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

**AS DELHI-SRINAGAR FLIGHT ENCOUNTERED HAILSTORM...**

## Pak Rejected IndiGo Jet's Request to Use Airspace

**New Delhi | Mumbai:** An IndiGo pilot operating the Delhi-Srinagar flight, which encountered a sudden hailstorm on Wednesday, initially sought Lahore Air Traffic Control's permission to briefly use the Pakistan airspace to avoid the turbulence, but the request was rejected, sources said on Thursday.

The incident of flight 6E 2142 encountering severe turbulence is being probed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the sources said.

The flight, carrying more than 220 people, including Trinamool Congress MPs encountered a sudden hailstorm, and the pilot reported the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar airport. The flight had landed safely on Wednesday.

When the aircraft was overflying Amritsar, the pilot noticed turbulence and

### PLANE FACTS



**When the aircraft was overflying Amritsar, the pilot noticed turbulence & sought Lahore ATC nod to take a deviation through Pak airspace**

sought Lahore Air Traffic Control's (ATC) permission to take a deviation through the Pakistan airspace on Wednesday. The request was made to avoid the turbulence, but it was rejected by the Lahore ATC, the sources said.

As a result, the aircraft operated on the original flight path, where it encountered severe turbulence, they added.

In the wake of tensions between India and Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack that killed at least 26 people, Pakistan airspace is closed for Indian carriers. India has also shut its airspace for Pakistan airlines.

In a statement on Wednesday, IndiGo said its flight 6E 2142, operating from Delhi to Srinagar, encountered a sudden hailstorm en route.

A five-member delegation of Trinamool Congress comprising Derek O'Brien, Nandimul Haque, Sagarika Ghose, Manas Bhunia and Mamata Thakur was on the flight. "It was a near-death experience. People were screaming, praying and panicking," Ghose said. — PTI

**RUNWAY CLEARED**

## As IndiGo Planes Return, Change in Fares on Horizon

Airline set to add 80 to fleet in FY26 but route additions may limit price drop

**Arindam Majumder**

**New Delhi:** IndiGo is expected to bring most of its grounded aircraft back into service by early next year, increasing its active fleet count by nearly 80 planes in FY26—double the average 40 aircraft it adds each year—a person aware of the development said.

Analysts said this could lead to softening of airfares, which have remained high due to shortage in supply of aircraft, but industry executives said the impact on fares may be limited as part of the increased capacity would be diverted to new and international routes.

### Taking Off

No of aircraft at IndiGo in FY25



Source: Company

## 40 Aircraft on Ground

►► From Page 1

India's largest airline currently has a fleet of 434 active aircraft.

Around 70 IndiGo aircraft were grounded starting December 2023 after US-based RTX, which makes the Pratt & Whitney engine, found that there was a contamination of powder metal used to make the engine—a defect that could lead to the cracking of components.

Currently, the airline has around 40 aircraft on ground, as its chief financial officer Gaurav Negi told analysts at its March quarter earnings call on Wednesday.

With Pratt's supply chain improving significantly and engines staying on wing without requiring repairing longer than initially anticipated, "it is expected that all aircraft will be out of grounding by the end of this year or early next year," the person cited on top said.

Around 30 of these planes will join the airline's fleet while 10 will be returned to lessors as their lease period will be over. "Along with the new addition, it will be a good boost to capacity," the per-

son added.

This year, IndiGo has so far added 14 new aircraft while it has returned around 11 planes to lessors.

"There will be a gradual easing of capacity crunch as these planes come back and new planes are added," an analyst tracking the sector said on condition of anonymity.

A spokesperson of IndiGo didn't reply to queries on the number of planes the airline will add but redirected to the latest capacity guidance.

### DELIVERY DELAYS

CFO Negi told analysts that in FY26, the airline expects its capacity to grow by early double digits as compared to FY 25 while for the first quarter of FY 26, it expects capacity growth of mid-teens compared to the same period last year.

Delivery of new aircraft has been significantly delayed as the two leading manufacturers, Airbus and Boeing, have struggled to keep up production due to supply chain problems. This has led to an increase in airfare as the number of aircraft wasn't enough to cater to increased passenger demand.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## Centre defends Celebi move, cites 'unprecedented' threat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, May 22

**THE CENTRE ON** Thursday defended its decision to revoke the security clearance to Turkey-based aviation ground handling company Celebi without warning, given the "unprecedented" threat to aviation security.

Appearing before Justice Sachin Datta, solicitor general Tushar Mehta said during "unprecedented" times, giving a hearing or reasons before taking action defeats the purpose and in matters of national security, "either we do something or we don't" but there was "nothing in between".

Celebi Airport Services India and Celebi Delhi Cargo Terminal Management India have moved court against the Cen-

tre's move. The Bureau of Civil Aviation Safety (BCAS) on May 15 revoked the security clearance, days after Turkey backed Pakistan and condemned India's strikes on terror camps in the neighbouring country.

Mehta said the petitioners were involved in ground and cargo handling, having access to aircraft and screening of cargo in several airports which also handled VIP movements, prompting authorities to invoke their "plenary powers" under the relevant law to take action.

"The court is dealing with a sui generis situation where there is a potential threat to the country's civil aviation security at various airports...", Mehta said. With respect to the petitioners' objection to the Centre furnishing some

"inputs" to court in a sealed cover, he said national security concerns outweighed the right to know. The court would continue the hearing on May 23.

### Celebi subsidiary moves Bombay HC

A Celebi subsidiary has moved the Bombay High Court against the revocation of its security clearance and subsequent termination of its contract with the Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL). Three petitions were filed on Wednesday by Celebi Nas Airport Services India, which operated at the Mumbai airport, challenging the Centre's decision to revoke the security clearance and contract termination.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

22 MAY 2025

## Domestic air passenger traffic grows 8% to 143.16 lakh in Apr

**PTI**  
NEW DELHI

Indian airlines flew 143.6 lakh passengers on domestic routes in April, 8.45 per cent more as compared to the year-ago period, amid rising air traffic demand. In terms of domestic market share, IndiGo topped the list with 64.1 per cent of the pie, followed by Air India Group (27.2 per cent), Akasa Air (5 per cent) and SpiceJet (2.6 per cent), according to the latest data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation



(DGCA).

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-April 2025 were 575.13 lakh as against 523.46 lakh during the corresponding period of the previous year thereby registering an annual growth of 9.87 per cent and monthly growth of 8.45 per cent," DGCA said in its monthly report.

Domestic air passenger traffic was at 143.16 lakh in April compared to 132 lakh in the same period a year ago.

In terms of On Time Performance (OTP) of scheduled domestic airlines -- computed for the four metro airports at Bengaluru, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai -- IndiGo's OTP stood at 80.8 per cent while that of Akasa Air and Air India Group was 77.5 per cent and 72.4 per cent, respectively. The OTP of SpiceJet was at the lowest at 60 per cent, as per the data.



## Corporate Communications Directorate

---

FREE PRESS JOURNAL

MUMBAI

22 MAY 2025

---

### Srinagar-bound flight declares 'emergency'

**A** Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight from Delhi, with more than 220 people, including TMC MPs, on board encountered sudden hailstorm on Wednesday, prompting the pilot to report the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar. The aircraft later landed safely in Srinagar and has been grounded. Videos of the moments of turbulence shared on social media showed panic-stricken passengers could be heard making religious supplications as the plane swayed. "All aircrew and 227 passengers are safe and the flight is declared AOG by the airline," an IndiGo spokesperson said. 'Aircraft on ground' (AOG) refers to a plane that is grounded and unable to fly due to technical issue.



## पाक की वजह से खतरे में पड़ी 227 यात्रियों की जान

नई दिल्ली, एजेसी। पाकिस्तान की असंवेदनशीलता के कारण बुधवार शाम को श्रीनगर जा रहे इंडिगो विमान में बैठे 227 यात्रियों की जान खतरे में पड़ गई थी। टर्बुलेंस में फंसे विमान को पाक एटीसी ने अपने हवाई क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने की अनुमति नहीं दी।

पाकिस्तान की ओर से मदद नहीं मिलने के बाद इंडिगो के पायलट ने सुझाव देकर विमान को टर्बुलेंस के बीच श्रीनगर हवाई अड्डे पर सुरक्षित लैंडिंग कराई। गुरुवार को विमान अधिकारियों के सूत्रों ने यह जानकारी दी।

दिल्ली से श्रीनगर जा रहे इंडिगो विमान 6ई2142 अमृतसर के ऊपर उड़ रहा था, तभी पायलट ने टर्बुलेंस महसूस किया। इस दौरान पायलट ने लाहौर एटीसी से संपर्क करके कुछ देर के लिए पाकिस्तान के हवाई क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने की अनुमति मांगी ताकि खराब मौसम से बचा जा सके। लेकिन लाहौर एटीसी ने इस गुहार को खारिज कर दिया। इस कारण विमान को अपने रूट पर ही रहना पड़ा और उसे भीषण टर्बुलेंस का सामना करना पड़ा।

इस घटना में विमान में सवार 227 यात्रियों की जान खतरे में पड़ गई थी। विमान में टीएमसी के पांच सांसद मौजूद थे। बाद में पायलट ने सुरक्षित रूप से श्रीनगर हवाई अड्डे पर विमान को उतारा। इंडिगो ने अपने बयान में कहा कि फ्लाइट ने रास्ते में अचानक ओलावृष्टि और तेज हवा का सामना किया। कृ ने सभी तय मानकों के अनुसार काम किया और विमान को



■ पाक एटीसी ने नहीं मानी तूफान में फंसे इंडिगो पायलट की गुहार

### उड़ान में गड़बड़ी की जांच कर रहा डीजीसीए

इंडिगो की दिल्ली-श्रीनगर उड़ान में गड़बड़ी की घटना की जांच नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (डीजीसीए) कर रहा है। सूत्रों ने गुरुवार को यह जानकारी दी।

सुरक्षित उतारा गया। पहलवाम आतंकी हमले के बाद भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच तनाव के मद्देनजर पड़ोसी देश ने अपना हवाई क्षेत्र भारतीय विमानन कंपनियों के लिए बंद कर दिया है।

इंडिगो ने बुधवार को एक बयान में कहा था कि दिल्ली से श्रीनगर जा रही उसकी उड़ान संख्या 6ई2142 को रास्ते में अचानक ओलावृष्टि का सामना करना पड़ा। विमानन कंपनी ने कहा कि उड़ान और चालक दल ने तय प्रोटोकॉल का पालन किया।

## ‘Aircraft windows should remain shut during take-off, landing at defence airfields’

**Jagriti Chandra**  
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued a directive to airlines, helicopter and chartered plane operators, mandating that window shades for passenger seats remain closed for flights arriving into and departing from defence airfields until the aircraft reaches an altitude of 10,000 feet during ascent or after it descends below that height.

“The order was issued on the recommendation of the Ministry of Defence,” a senior DGCA official told *The Hindu* on the condition of anonymity.

The May 20 order says, “All passenger window shades, where applicable, (except at emergency exit windows) shall remain closed during the take-off and landing phases specifically, until the aircraft is airborne and has crossed an altitude of 10,000 feet during departure, or dur-



DGCA issues order to airlines on the recommendation of Ministry of Defence. GETTY IMAGES

ing arrival, it descends below 10,000 feet and reaches the parking bay at the civil terminal.” Airlines will also have to remind passengers that photography and videography are prohibited at military bases.

Several defence airfields in India double up as commercial airports and are known as civil enclaves.

Airlines have been instructed to prepare standard operating protocols for their crew to address safety risks, including making announcements before

take-off and landing at all Defence airports, “particularly those near the western Indian border”. Violating these rules will lead to legal action against passengers, says the order.

### Flag concerns

Several pilots, while speaking anonymously, flagged that keeping windows open during landing and take-off is a mandatory safety requirement as it helps visually monitor external environment and identify potential hazards such as an engine fire from either a technical fault or a bird strike, which are known to happen during the take-off and landing stages of a flight. The open windows also help ensure situational awareness in an event of emergency.

In response, a senior DGCA official said that the emergency exit windows were being kept open for these reasons, adding that the order will be reviewed in a week’s time.

# Turbulence on IndiGo's Delhi-Srinagar flight: DGCA begins probe

**Neha LM Tripathi**

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has begun a preliminary investigation into the severe turbulence episode on a Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight that took place on Wednesday evening, officials said on Thursday.

The airline has submitted its report to the regulator, the officials said.

"The turbulence experienced by 6E 2142 is massive and is being probed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation," officials cited above said on condition of anonymity. "The airline has submitted the incident report to the regulator after which preliminary investigations are on-going."

The Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight encountered severe turbulence after take off from Delhi's IGI airport at around 4.55pm, and landed in Srinagar at approximately 6.25pm.

While IndiGo spokesperson did not comment on the investigations, a statement from the budget carrier on Thursday said, "IndiGo flight 6E 2142 from Delhi to Srinagar on May 21, 2025 navigated a sudden hailstorm and landed safely at Srinagar International Airport. All customers were attended to upon landing and no injuries were reported."

"The aircraft is currently undergoing necessary inspec-

**THE FLIGHT WITH  
220 PEOPLE ON  
BOARD, HOWEVER,  
LANDED SAFELY  
AFTER WHICH THE  
AIRCRAFT WAS  
GROUNDED**

tion and maintenance in Srinagar and will resume operations once all clearances have been secured. We sincerely thank our customers for their cooperation in ensuring the safe completion of this flight. As always, the safety of our customers and crew remains our highest priority," the statement said.

According to Flightradar24, a live flight tracking website, the aircraft registered as VT-IBJ, overflew Pathankot, that is very close to Lahore airspace before it could descend to land at its scheduled destination.

The flight with 220 people on board, however, landed safely after which the aircraft was grounded.

Meanwhile, news agency PTI quoted unnamed sources as saying that the pilot operating the Delhi-Srinagar flight initially sought Lahore Air Traffic Control's permission to briefly use Pakistan airspace to avoid turbulence, but the request was rejected.

Hindustan Times could not verify the authenticity of the report.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

---

HINDUSTAN TIMES

MUMBAI

22 MAY 2025

---

## INDIGO TO FLY DIRECT FROM CITY TO MANCHESTER, AMSTERDAM

**MUMBAI:** IndiGo has announced its first-ever long-haul route connecting Mumbai with Manchester, United Kingdom, on July 1 and Mumbai to Amsterdam, Netherlands, from July 2.

The airline will use its Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft to operate three weekly flights on the route. This will make IndiGo the only airline offering direct connectivity between India and the Northern UK. Erstwhile Jet Airways operated the Boeing 777 on Mumbai to Manchester route before its operations were shut down in 2019.

The Mumbai to Manchester flights will operate on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The Mumbai to Amsterdam flights will operate on Wednesday Friday, and Sunday.

Pieter Elbers, IndiGo's chief executive officer, said, "The Netherlands and India share a strong and thriving bilateral relationship, and this new non-stop, thrice-weekly service between Mumbai and Amsterdam will only deepen the growing ties between the two nations." A spokesperson said this service will unlock new avenues for bilateral trade and collaboration.

Manchester Airport's managing director, Chris Woodroffe, said, "This route makes us the only Northern airport with a direct connection to India and cements our position as one of Europe's best-connected airports."

YOGESH NAIK

## IndiGo's shaky Q1 a one-off blip

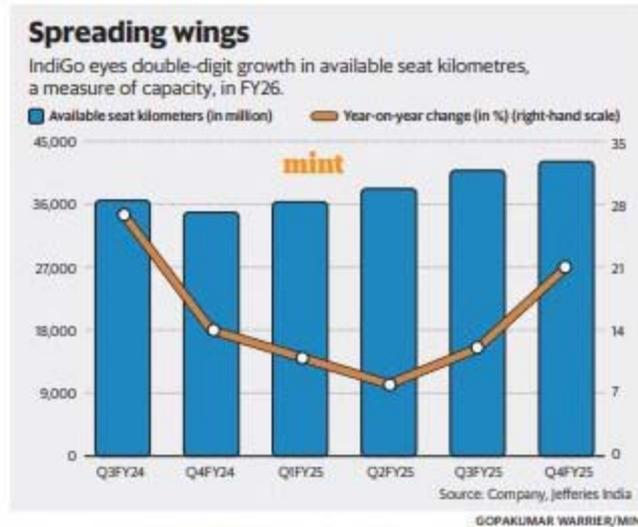
Harshajethmalani  
harshaj@htlive.com

InterGlobe Aviation Ltd (IndiGo) landed smoothly in the March quarter. A demand surge, led largely by the Mahakumbh festivities in January-February, helped the airline's capacity, measured by available seat kilometers (ASK), increase by 21% year-on-year.

Yields, a measure of pricing, were better than expected, up 2.4% at ₹5.32. Lower operating costs and benign jet fuel expenses translated into Ebitdar—a key metric for airlines—rising almost 60% on-year to about ₹6,950 crore, ahead of the consensus estimate. Ebitda is earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation and lease rentals.

But IndiGo investors may have to buckle up for some turbulence in the June quarter (Q1 of FY26). Due to the closure of Pakistan's airspace, IndiGo had to suspend flights to Almaty and Tashkent. The impact will also be felt on several routes and daily flights, which may lead to additional flying time of 20-30 minutes.

Cancellations in May weighed on



passenger volumes and pricing. If capacity outpaces demand, yields may come under pressure in Q1.

Analysts at Jefferies India said the negative impact on travel demand in Q1 could be a one-off blip. Also, softer crude prices will help the airline ride out near-term demand weakness. Jefferies raised its earnings per share

estimate by about 6% on a lower crude estimate of \$72 per barrel, to be offset by expected weakness in Q1.

IndiGo is hoping for some recovery in travel booking trends and yields in June but refrained from giving yield guidance.

"We expect the overall pricing environment to remain stable with

yields of ₹5.1 over the next two years as the aviation market is now a duopoly with limited threat of predatory pricing," PL Capital said in a report.

The airline guided for mid-teen capacity growth for Q1. It maintained early double-digit capacity growth guidance for FY26. Aircraft additions as well as new routes are expected to contribute.

IndiGo added three destinations to domestic network and seven to its margin-accretive international network. The company had 91 domestic destinations and 40 international in FY25. It expects 40% contribution of international ASK by 2030 from 30% now.

Also, IndiGo announced direct flights to Amsterdam and Manchester from Mumbai starting July. According to Nuvama Research, wide-body long-haul direct flights on these routes may be risky for IndiGo.

Wide-body aircraft are large commercial airplanes made for long-duration flights. Nuvama said low-cost

long-haul operations have yielded mixed results globally. Also, it cautioned that competition is relatively higher on international routes.

Still, IndiGo's efforts to deepen its international presence, increased thrust on "IndiGoStretch," a premium seating option, and declining grounded aircraft count are seen as margin levers.

In FY26, IndiGo expects the cost per available seat kilometer (CASK) ex-fuel to be little changed. This would be driven by expected cost escalations for airport rentals and maintenance, offset by the scaling down of damp-leases. CASK-ex fuel was ₹3.2 in FY25, up from ₹2.66 in FY24.

The IndiGo stock hit a 52-week high of ₹5,665.50 on 19 May following the easing of India-Pakistan tensions and is now only 3% shy of this peak. Investors can hardly complain, with the shares having gained 21% so far in 2025. The potential softness in Q1 may be a short-term hurdle.

### EYEING CLEAR SKIES

**INDIGO** hopes for a June recovery in bookings and yields but refrained from giving guidance

**THE** airline added three domestic networks and seven margin-accretive international routes.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

MINT

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## 'Absolute power with govt to protect nation'

Govt to HC: Ground handling firms' access to airport, aircraft is risky

Priyanka Gawande & Daanish Anand  
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

**T**he Union government clarified before the Delhi High Court (HC) on Thursday that it has 'plenary' (absolute) powers to protect the nation's national security.

The government's comments come on a petition filed by Celebi, a Turkish ground and cargo handling company, which challenged the government's move to revoke its security clearance licence. Solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing on behalf of the government, said, "Plenary powers rest with the government to avoid any potential threat to the country. Ground handling companies have access to the entire airport and aircraft. Hence, the director general of BCAS can use his *aut generis* powers to eliminate the immediate threat."

Mehta's comments follow Turkey's recent publicly shown support for Pakistan, while there are serious cross-border tensions between India and Pakistan.

Following this, on 15 May, the director general of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) immediately scrapped Celebi's security licence, citing concerns surrounding the country's national security and sovereignty. Mehta further argued, "One thing is clear, if it's not plenary power, then a hearing has to be provided and reasons have to be recorded."

However, the country sometimes faces a situation that is so unprecedented that neither an opportunity of hearing is possible because the delay itself might defeat the object of the act, nor is it possible to give reasons for the revocation because again it defeats the purpose of the action, Mehta said. Adding that this is when 'plenary' power comes in.

The solicitor general's remarks follow Celebi's allegations that it was never allowed an opportunity for a hearing before the government revoked its security licence, citing security concerns. The mat-



In a media statement issued on 15 May, Celebi, a Turkish ground and cargo handling firm, refuted all allegations and said it is a globally operated aviation services company.

ter will be taken up for hearing on Friday.

Further, Mehta also informed the court that the Turkish firm has direct access to aircraft. It (Celebi) also has access to computer data, including the VIP movement and flight movement of both domestic and international flights, hinting that this can concern the security of aviation and

Mukul Rohatgi, who is representing the company in the matter. The senior counsel argued that the government's move was in violation of the principles of natural justice.

The government, however, stated that having plenary powers allows it to revoke any licence without assigning any reasons.

In a media statement issued on 15 May, Celebi refuted all allegations and said it is a globally operated aviation services company. "Celebi Aviation India unequivocally refutes all allegations circulating on social media regarding the company's ownership and operations in India. The company is

65% owned by international institutional investors from across Canada, the US, the UK, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, and Western Europe," said the company in a media statement.

[priyanka.gawande@livenint.com](mailto:priyanka.gawande@livenint.com)  
For an extended version of the story, go to [livenint.com](https://livenint.com)

### UNDER SCANNER

**THE** comments by the solicitor general follow Turkey's publicly shown support for Pakistan

**TUSHAR** Mehta also informed the Delhi HC that the Turkish firm has access to flight movement

**CELEBI** alleges it was not allowed an opportunity for a hearing before its licence was revoked

national security. On Wednesday, Celebi argued that its business and contracts with airport operators across the country are now being cancelled. It said this was due to the Union government's decision to revoke the firm's security clearance.

"Our (Celebi's) business and contracts have been affected," said senior counsel



# Corporate Communications Directorate

---

MILLENNIUM POST

KOLKATA

22 MAY 2025

---

## Domestic air passenger traffic grows 8% in Apr

---

**NEW DELHI:** Indian airlines flew 143.6 lakh passengers on domestic routes in April, 8.45 per cent more as compared to the year-ago period, amid rising air traffic demand.

In terms of domestic market share, IndiGo topped the list with 64.1 per cent of the pie, followed by Air India Group (27.2 per cent), Akasa Air (5 per cent) and SpiceJet (2.6 per cent), according to the latest data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-April 2025 were 575.13 lakh as against 523.46 lakh dur-

ing the corresponding period of the previous year thereby registering an annual growth of 9.87 per cent and monthly growth of 8.45 per cent," DGCA said. Domestic air passenger traffic was at 143.16 lakh in April compared to 132 lakh in the same period a year ago.

In terms of On Time Performance (OTP) of scheduled domestic airlines -- computed for the four metro airports at Bengaluru, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai -- IndiGo's OTP stood at 80.8% while that of Akasa Air and Air India Group was 77.5% and 72.4%, respectively.

MPOST

## DGCA asks airline to submit report on Del-Srinagar plane

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

THE Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Thursday asked Indigo Airlines to submit a report on the hailstorm impacting the Delhi-Srinagar flight 6E 2142 on Wednesday evening. All 227 passengers on board narrowly escaped after the flight encountered the hailstorm midway.

The director of DGCA, Faiz Ahmed, told this newspaper, "We have asked Indigo to submit a report on the incident. We will decide whether to order an inquiry after finding out what the airline has to say about it."

Former pilots and aviation safety experts, however, said the situation could have been handled better.

Captain C S Randhawa, president of Federation of Indian Pilots, told this newspaper, "The weather in an approaching area is picked up very much in advance by two weather radars which are superimposed on the navigation display. There is a red area which is displayed to caution the cockpit crew. It can never happen that both radars fail simultaneously. This gives the pilot a chance to divert the flight well in advance to avoid something in the route by connecting with ATC and taking their guidance too."

He added that the pilot can opt for a diversion 80 miles or even 60 miles before the spot where there is an issue. In this case, the flight was confronted by pre-monsoon conditions on the Delhi-Srinagar route. He said that steps should have been taken to avert the hailstorm completely.



### 227 passengers on board narrowly escaped

All 227 passengers on board narrowly escaped after the flight encountered the hailstorm midway. DGCA director Faiz Ahmed said, "We have asked Indigo to submit a report. We will decide whether to order an inquiry after finding out what the airline has to say about it."

Aviation Safety Consultant and former pilot Captain Mohan Ranganathan posted an explanation on 'X' with photographs detailing the precautions that pilots must take in such adverse weather conditions.

Sharing details about a training CD he had read for the DGCA, he stated that all airlines must mandatorily carry out an ALAR (Approach and Landing Reduction) training for pilots. "Never fly in the clear area below the anvil of a mature CB (Cumulonimbus) cloud. There is a very strong likelihood of hail damage to aircraft, especially during pre-monsoon and post-monsoon thunderstorms."

Regarding Wednesday's inci-

### Pakistan rejected pilot's request to use its airspace

The Indigo pilot initially sought Lahore ATC's permit to briefly use the Pakistan airspace to avoid the turbulence, but the request was rejected, sources said. A TMC delegation of Derek O'Brien, Nadimul Haque, Sagarika Ghose, Manas Bhunia, and Mamata Thakur was on the flight.

dent, he added, "I find the windshield, wing leading edges or engine cowling show no damage. Only the nose cone damage does not point to a severe hailstorm."

Asked for its response to the views expressed by aviation experts, an Indigo spokesperson said, "We do not want to comment on speculations."

In a fresh statement released Thursday, the airline said that all passengers were attended to upon landing, and no injuries were reported.

"The aircraft is currently undergoing necessary inspection and maintenance in Srinagar and will resume operations once all clearances have been secured," it said.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE PIONEER

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## IndiGo flight hit by hailstorm, DGCA launches investigation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
New Delhi

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has started probing the incident of IndiGo's Delhi-Srinagar flight encountering turbulence due to a sudden hailstorm on Wednesday. The flight, carrying more than 220 people, including Trinamool Congress MPs encountered sudden hailstorm and the pilot reported the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar airport. The flight landed safely.



The sources said the incident is being probed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Specific details could not be immediately ascertained.

In a statement on Wednesday, IndiGo said its flight 6E 2142 operating from Delhi to Srinagar encountered sudden hailstorm en route.

"The flight and cabin crew followed established protocol and the aircraft landed safely in Srinagar. The airport team attended to the customers after arrival of the aircraft, prioritising their wellbeing and comfort. The aircraft will be released post necessary inspection and maintenance," it had said. A five-member delegation of Trinamool Congress comprising Derek O'Brien, Nadimul Haque, Sagarika Ghose, Manas Bhunia, and Mamata Thakur, was on the flight.

"It was a near-death experience. I thought my life was over. People were screaming, praying and panicking," Ghose said on Wednesday. "Hats off to the pilot who brought us through that. When we landed we saw the nose of the plane had blown up," she had said and added that the delegation thanked the pilot after the landing.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

---

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

22 MAY 2025

---

## Flight emergency

■ **SRINAGAR:** A Srinagar-bound IndiGo flight from Delhi with more than 220 people on board experienced turbulence on Wednesday because of inclement weather, prompting the pilot to report the "emergency" to air traffic control at Srinagar. The aircraft later landed safely here and has been grounded, officials said. [PTI](#)



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TELEGRAPH

KOLKATA

22 MAY 2025



## **FLYING HIGH** **Domestic** **air traffic** **soars 8%**

New Delhi: Indian airlines flew 143.6 lakh passengers on domestic routes in April compared with 132 lakh in the same period a year ago, an 8.45 per cent increase, amid rising air traffic demand.

"Passengers carried by domestic airlines during January-April 2025 were 575.13 lakh against 523.46 lakh during the corresponding period of the previous year, registering an annual growth of 9.87 per cent and monthly growth of 8.45 per cent," DGCA said in its monthly report.

In terms of domestic market share, IndiGo topped the list with 64.1 per cent of the pie, followed by Air India Group (27.2 per cent), Akasa Air (5 per cent) and SpiceJet (2.6 per cent), according to the latest data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

### **IndiGo net up 62%**

InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of the country's largest airline IndiGo, on Wednesday posted a 62 per cent rise in profit after tax at ₹3,067.5 crore for the quarter ended March 2025.

The company's profit after tax in the three months ended March 2025 jumped 62 per cent from ₹1,894.8 crore in the year-ago period.



# Corporate Communications Directorate

THE TIMES OF INDIA

DELHI

23 MAY 2025

## Pak refused to bail out IndiGo flight hit by sudden hailstorm

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The pilot of IndiGo's Delhi-Srinagar flight on Wednesday requested permission from Lahore ATC to briefly enter Pakistan airspace to escape turbulence after being caught in a sudden hailstorm. Sources said Lahore ATC denied the request, prompting the Airbus A321 pilot to declare an emergency with Srinagar ATC.

The flight, carrying over 220 passengers, including Trinamool MPs, landed safely in Srinagar, but not without damage — the aircraft's radome, or nose cone, was left badly battered by the storm.

A senior official from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said, "We've asked IndiGo for a detailed report and a probe is underway. The aircraft (VT-IMD) remains grounded in Srinagar. The pilots are being praised for their presence of mind and professionalism in ensuring everyone's safety."

IndiGo, in an official statement, said: "Flight 6E 2142 from Delhi to Srinagar on May 21 encountered a sudden hailstorm and landed safely at Srinagar International Airport. All passen-

### Window shades must remain shut during take-off, landing at defence airports: DGCA

India's aviation regulator DGCA has directed commercial airlines and charter and private jet operators to ensure aircraft window shades, barring those for emergency exit-row seats, are closed during take-off and landing at defence airports, "particularly those near the western border".

The rule is meant to "enhance operational safety and prevent unintentional sharing of security-related information by general public/crew". Failure to comply will invite legal action, DGCA said.

Pakistani drone and missile attacks in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor led to 32 airports in north, central and western India — including defence airbases with civil enclaves in Srinagar, Jammu, Leh, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Gwalior and Hindon — being shut for a few days. While operations at these airports have resumed, security concerns remain. "These instructions shall apply post opening of Indian airspace for commercial operations to all scheduled, scheduled commuter, and non-scheduled aircraft operating from defence airfields. All passenger window shades, where applicable, shall remain closed until the aircraft is airborne and has crossed an altitude of 10,000 feet during departure, or during arrival, after it descends below 10,000 feet and reaches the parking bay at the civil terminal," the order states. In normal circumstances, safety protocol mandates all window shades remain open during take-off and landing. This is to ensure passengers and crew can assess external conditions, such as fires or debris, and identify exits in case of an emergency evacuation. DGCA order for civilian operations at defence airfields also bars photography. TNN

gers were well attended to upon landing and no injuries were reported. The aircraft is undergoing inspection and maintenance, and will resume service once it receives the necessary clearances."

Although Pak airspace is shut for Indian carriers, aviation experts argue that emergency requests like the one made by the IndiGo pilot should not be refused in the interest of passenger safety.