

## New wave of bomb threats hits Indian flights

- A Monitor Desk Report

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New Delhi: Hoax threats targeting Indian carriers continue unabated, even a fortnight after this wave began.

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IndiGo confirmed "security-related alerts" for 18 of its flights, two of which—Pune-Jodhpur (6E 133) and Kozhikode-Dammam (6E 87)—were diverted to Ahmedabad and Mumbai, respectively.

Over the past 15 days, more than 350 flights have received similar hoax alerts, resulting in substantial financial losses for airlines and significant delays for passengers.

Last Friday (Oct 25), the government instructed social media intermediaries like X and Meta to curb this misinformation and warned of strict action if they failed to do so. However, the issue persists.

Union Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu said on Sunday (Oct 27), “We are also seeking support from international agencies, law enforcement agencies, and the Intelligence Bureau to prevent these incidents. We are planning to amend two civil aviation laws. Those responsible for such activities will face severe penalties. We are also taking steps to ban such individuals from flying. We will announce further measures in the coming days,” he added.

Meanwhile, airlines and passengers remain in a state of uncertainty due to these ongoing threats. “In line with our strict safety protocols, all necessary precautions are being taken, and we are working closely with the relevant authorities.

The safety and security of our customers and crew remain our highest priority. We regret any inconvenience caused to our customers and appreciate their understanding during this time,” IndiGo said in a statement.

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