

News

A Supreme Court PIL requests that the Air India Boeing fleet be suspended.



The petition was made in response to the recent disaster of an Air India Boeing plane that was traveling from Ahmedabad to London, which claimed the lives of 241 passengers and crew members on board as well as 29 people on the ground.

The Supreme Court has received a public interest petition asking for immediate orders to halt Air India's use of all Boeing aircraft until a safety audit is finished.

The petition was made in response to the recent disaster of an Air India Boeing plane that was traveling from Ahmedabad to London, which claimed the lives of 241 passengers and crew members on board as well as 29 people on the ground.

Ajay Bansal, a practicing attorney who filed the suit, has requested that the Court guarantee

both statutory compliance and passenger safety in relation to Air India's operations.

The case claims that on May 20, 2025, the petitioner and his spouse flew from Delhi to Chicago on Air India aircraft AI 127. Despite being in Business Class, they discovered that the air conditioning, in-flight entertainment system, and seats were all broken until they reached cruise altitude.

After an official complaint was filed with Air India, the airline only partially acknowledged its error and paid ₹10,000 in compensation.

According to the petition, these instances of service disruptions are not unique.

The petition claims that social media videos and numerous reports reveal frequent issues with Air India aircraft.

According to the petitioner, the June 12 disaster has cast considerable doubt on the aircraft's airworthiness and the sufficiency of maintenance inspections.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation's inspection report, which found that Air India had faked internal safety audit data, is also cited in the case.

It was discovered that 13 spot checks that were purportedly carried out at significant airports were fake. The team discovered no documentation of the actual inspections, no authorized signatures, and no appropriate authority delegation.

In many instances, it was discovered that the auditors on the list were really passengers when the said checks were conducted.

According to the appeal, the airline still has safety and customer service issues even after being acquired by the Tata Group in 2022.

According to the appeal, no effective corrective action was taken even after the DGCA identified significant flaws.

The petition demands that the Aircraft Act of 1934 and the Aircraft Rules of 1937 be enforced and that the authorities be held accountable.

The petitioner has called for the immediate grounding of unfit aircraft, the creation of new safety regulations, and the requirement of regular inspections of the engines, airframes, and cabin systems. Additionally, he has requested that the Court order the public release of safety audit results and sanctions for noncompliance.

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