# Engine failure, bird hit could be reasons for plane crash: Experts



A London-bound Air India plane crashes moments after taking off from the Ahmedabad airport

**PTI, AHMEDABAD:** Failure of both engines or a bird hit soon after take-off could be among the probable causes that led to the fatal crash of a London-bound Air India aircraft with 242 people onboard, according to experts.

Three senior wide-body pilots, who are also instructors, told PTI that looking at the videos of the crash available publicly, it seems that the engines could not gain the required thrust needed for the take-off, resulting in a fatal crash into the residential area seconds after it took off.

The specific reasons for the crash of the Boeing 787-8 aircraft flying from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick will be known only after the completion of the detailed probe by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).

The experts mentioned the possible causes based on the available visuals of the aircraft as it went down.

One of the commanders said it does not seem to be the case of one engine failure because in such a scenario, the aircraft would have been swinging but here, the aircraft was steady.

"So, there is the possibility of both the engines failing... there could have been a loss of thrust in both engines. But these are only possibilities," a commander said, adding that from the images, it appears that either the flaps were up or landing gear was down at the time of take off.

The second commander mentioned that the way, the aircraft went down, indicated that there was a lack of

thrust in both the engines. "This could happen if

both engines had flameout

due to a bird hit," he said. The third commander said the aircraft's both engines might have lost power. One engine might have failed and possibly due to the landing gear being not retracted after take-off, the second engine might not have had adequate power.

While there are suggestions that the aircraft's weight could have been higher than the permissible limit, the commander said if that was the case, then the take-off itself would not have been possible.

The weight of the aircraft determines the V1 speed or take-off speed.

If the calculated speed is lower than required, the engines will struggle to get

**AHMEDABAD CRASH: US EXPERT SAYS PLANE** PARTS DID NOT SEEM PROPERLY CONFIGURED

AP, WASHINGTON: US experts on Thursday said the plane involved in the crash at Ahmedabad did not seem "properly configured" and that the crash appeared "surprising" at first glnce. The Air India passenger plane bound for London with more than 240 people on board crashed in India's northwestern city of Ahmedabad. The aircraft was a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, a widebody, twin-engine plane. This is the first crash ever of the Dreamliner since it went into service in 2009, according to the Aviation Safety Network database. Aviation safety consultant John M Cox said one of the questions investigators will be asking is whether the Air India plane that crashed Thursday was properly configured for flight. While he stressed it was too early to make any conclusions, the CEO of Washington DC-based Safety Operating Systems said the grainy images of the flight suggested that one area of inquiry was likely to be whether the slats and flaps were in the correct position as the plane attempted to climb. "The image shows the airplane with the nose rising and it continuing to sink," he said. "That says that the airplane is not making enough lift."The slats and flaps should be positioned so that the wing makes more lift at lower speeds.

the plane airborne.

The Boeing 787-8 aircraft - VT-ANB - operating flight AI 171 took off from runway 23 at the Ahmedabad

airport to London Gatwick. À MAYDAY call was given to the air traffic controller soon after the takeoff but thereafter, no response was given by the aircraft to the calls made by the air traffic controller, aviation regulator DGCA said.

"Aircraft, immediately after departure from runway 23, fell on ground outside the airport perimeter," the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said in a statement.

## **Tata Group to** give Rs 1 crore to families of crash victims

PTI, NEW DELHI: Tata Group will provide Rs 1 crore to the family of each person who died in the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad on Thursdav.

The aircraft, carrying 242 people, from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick crashed immediately after takeoff on Thursday afternoon.

"We are deeply anguished by the tragic event involving Air India Flight 171.

"No words can adequately express the grief we feel at this moment. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who have lost their loved ones, and with those who have been injured," Tata Group and Air India Chairman N Chandrasekaran said.

Tata Group will provide Rs 1 crore to the families of each person who has lost their life in this tragedy, he added.

In the message posted by Tata Group on X, he also said the group will cover the medical expenses of those injured and ensure that they receive all necessary care and support.

"Additionally, we will provide support in the building up of the BJ Medical's hostel.

"We remain steadfast in standing with the affected families and communities during this unimaginable time," he said.

#### I am deeply distressed to learn about the tracic plane crash in Ahmedabad. It is a heart-rending disaster. My thoughts and prayers are with the affected people. The nation stands with them in this hour of indescribable grief

-Droupadi Murmu, President of India

The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. It is heartbreaking beyond words, In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected

-Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India

Desperately shocked, sending prayers and deepest possible sympathies to the families of those affected

-King Charles III

Scenes emerging of a London-bound plane carrying many British nationals crashing in the Indian city of Ahmedabad are devastating, My thoughts are with the passengers and their families at this deeply distressing time

-Keir Starmer, UK Prime Minister

Deeply saddened by the tragedy involving an Air India aircraft near Ahmedabad

-Pope Leo XIV

Please accept my deepest condolences over the tragic consequences of the plane crash at Ahmedabad Airport

-Vladimir Putin, President of Russia

The plane crash was terrible. I've already told them (India), anything we can do. It's a big country, a strong country, and they'll handle it, I'm sure -Donald Trump, US President

We have learned with deep emotion of the tragic plane crash in Ahmedabad, India. In this time of sorrow, I extend our heartfelt thoughts to the victims'

loved ones and to Prime Minister @NarendraModi

- Emmanuel Macron, French President



A portion of the plane that crashed moments after taking off



Relief work underway after an Air India plane crashed moments



after taking off from the airport, in Ahmedabad



Damage at the canteen building where students were dining



A family member of one of the crew members of Air India flight 171, mourns at her residence in Thoubal Mayai Leikai near Imphal in Manipur

## **CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

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on WhatsApp: 8329898091.

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Medical distributor in Margao Require Bcom/ Mcom for Accounting/ Book Keeping job. Freshers may apply. Call 9970817543. English, Konkani knowledge must. Candidate from in and around Margao

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# Global agencies to join probe

## AAIB to probe plane crash

PTI. NEW DELHI: Aircraft agencies to take swift and Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will probe the Air India plane crash at Thursday, according to an official.

Boeing 787 aircraft, involved in the crash, had 242 people on board, including 12 crew members.

AAIB Director General and Director of Investigation at the agency, among others, will be leaving for Ahmedabad, the official

Under the civil aviation of safety occurrences, involving aircraft operating in the Indian airspace into accidents and serious inci-

It carries out detailed investigations into accidents and also suggests measures to improve safety.

"We are aware of initial reports and are working to gather more information," Boeing said in a statement.

Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu expressed shock at the plane crash and said he was personally monitoring the situation.

"We are on highest alert. am personally monitoring the situation and have directed all aviation and emergency response commissioner GS Malik

coordinated action.

"Rescue teams have been mobilised and all efthe Ahmedabad airport on forts are being made to ensure medical aid and relief support are being rushed Air India's Dreamliner to the site," he said in a post on X in the afternoon.

# **Boeing says** 'ready to support'

AFP, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES: US planemaker Boeing said it was ready to support ministry, AAIB is respon- Air India following the sible for the classification crash Thursday of a London-bound with 242 people on board.

"We are in contact with Air India regarding Flight 171 and stand ready to support them," said a Boeing statement. Our thoughts are with the passengers, crew, first responders and all

affected.' Earlier Thursday, it said it was "working to gather more information" on the incident.

Air India flight 171, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner with 242 on board, crashed in the western city of Ahmedabad shortly after takeoff, officials said. Ahmedabad city police

# US agency to lead team to India to assist plane crash investigation

PTI, WASHINGTON/SAN FRANCISCO: A US government agency that investigates civil aviation accidents on Thursday said it would be leading a team of American investigators to India to assist in the investigation of the tragic Air India crash in Ahmedabad.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said in a post on X that it will be "leading a team of US investigators travelling to India to assist the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau with its investigation into the crash of an Air India Boeing 787 in Ahmedabad, In-

dia, Thursday." It added that as per international protocols under the International Civil Aviation Organisation, all information on the investigation will be provided by the Government of India.

The Air India flight was carrying 242 passengers and crew members onboard the Boeing 787-8 aircraft. There were 169 Indians, 53 British, one Canadian and seven Portuguese nationals onboard the ill-fated Air India flight AI 171 from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick, which crashed in Ahmedabad on Thursday.

The Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration (FAA) said it is in contact with the NTSB regarding Air India flight AI171, operating from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick, "that was involved in an accident in India on

Thursday, June 12. "When an international incident occurs, that government leads the investigation. In the event assistance is requested, the NTSB is the official US representative and the FAA provides technical support. We stand ready to launch a team immediately in coordination with the NTSB, the FAA, the US federal government agency that regulates civil aviation in the

country, said. Boeing said in a brief statement that it is in contact with Air India regarding Flight 171 and "stand ready to support them. Our thoughts are with the passengers, crew, first responders and all affected."

US lawmakers are extending condolence messages to the victims and their families.

Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi said he was "heartbroken" by the Air India crash in Ahmedabad and expressed his deepest condolences to all those around the world touched by this tragedy.

# Woman misses flight by 10 mins: Says God saved me

Agencies, Ahmedabad: In a heartbreaking turn of events, Bhoomi Chauhan, a passenger scheduled to travel to London on Air India Flight AI171, narrowly escaped tragedy after missing the flight by just ten minutes due to traffic congestion in Ahmedabad. The flight later crashed, leading to a devastating

## NARROW **ESCAPE**

loss of lives.

Speaking to the media, Bhoomi expressed deep sorrow and shock upon hearing the news. "I am completely devastated after hearing about the loss," she said with a

Just because of those ten minutes, I could not board the flight. I don't know how to explain this. I am thankful to God. My Ganpati Bappa saved me -Bhoomi Chauhan Passenger scheduled to travel

choked voice. "My body is literally shivering. I am not being able to talk. My mind is totally blank now after hearing all that has happened."

Bhoomi, who was visiting India for a vacation after two years, was returning to London where her husband lives. She recounted how the flight was on schedule, but heavy traffic prevented her from reaching the airport in

"Just because of those

board the flight. I don't know how to explain this," she said. Overwhelmed with emotion, Bhoomi expressed gratitude for what she described as divine intervention. "I am thankful to God. My Ganpati Bappa saved me," she said.

Her near-miss has left

her shaken, but grateful to be alive. As the investigation into the crash continues, Bhoomi's story stands as a haunting reminder of fate's unpreten minutes, I could not dictable role in our lives.

### Control rooms set up in Ahmedabad

PTI, NEW DELHI: The civil aviation ministry on Thursday set up a control room to oversee and coordinate all necessary response measures in the wake of the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad.

9650391859.

A control room has 9978405304/079-23251900.

Besides, Air India's passenger hotline number is 1800 **5691 444.** "An operation-

## For details, people can 011-24610843, also been set up in Ahmedabad and the numbers

A helpline has also been activated at the Ahmedabad airport and the number is **9974111327**.

dedicated al control room has been activated at the Ministry of Civil Aviation to coordinate," the ministry said.