# Air India Boeing 787 crash kills 241 including British charity family and wellness couple



Downing Street is bracing for the tragic news of significant loss of British lives following a catastrophic crash involving an Air India flight shortly after its departure from Ahmedabad, India, on June 12, 2025. The Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, en route to London Gatwick, reportedly plummeted into a residential area, resulting in a death toll of 241 passengers and crew members as confirmed by authorities. Among the deceased were a British family of three—Akeel Nanabawa, his wife Hannaa Vorajee, and their young daughter, Sara—identified by the Gloucester Muslim Community. The family was known for their extensive charity work, particularly efforts supporting humanitarian initiatives in Gaza and healthcare for impoverished communities in India. Sara, described as a "ray of sunshine" by her headteacher Abdullah Samad, lit up her classroom and will be sorely missed.

Also among the victims was another British couple, Jamie Ray Greenlaw-Meek and his husband Fiongal Greenlaw-Meek, who were returning to London after a spiritual wellness retreat. Their company, the Wellness Foundry, was renowned for its psychic readings and had collaborated with major brands including Netflix and Dior. Family members expressed their devastation, recalling how the couple shared their lives through social media, documenting their travels and projects until their final moments at the airport.

The flight carried 242 individuals, including 169 Indian nationals, 53 British citizens, seven Portuguese, and one Canadian. Amidst this diversity, authorities are working diligently to identify the deceased and connect with relatives. The gravity of the incident is compounded by reports that the aircraft issued a mayday distress call just before losing contact with air traffic control. Eyewitness accounts describe the plane descending rapidly and erupting into flames upon impact, which also claimed the lives of at least five medical students on the ground.

This marks a grim milestone as it is the first crash involving a Boeing 787, a model previously regarded for its impressive safety record since its introduction in 2009. The aviation disaster has prompted a significant international response, with investigators from the U.S. and U.K. joining Indian authorities in the probe. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and British Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer have both expressed their condolences, while various global leaders have offered sympathy for the victims and their families.

The sole survivor of the crash, Viswash Kumar Ramesh, a British national of Indian origin, has recounted harrowing details of the incident, stating he managed to escape the wreckage and suffered injuries as he fled from the site. Rescuers have been combing through the debris, not just to recover remains but also to explore the possibility of uncovering additional survivors, although hopes are dwindling.

As investigations unfold into the causes of this severe aviation disaster, there are growing concerns regarding Boeing’s safety practices, reigniting discussions about the corporation's record after numerous incidents involving its aircraft in past years. Amidst the chaos, Air India has vowed to provide full support to the families of the victims as they navigate this heartbreaking tragedy.

The crash not only serves as a solemn reminder of the fragility of life but also highlights the interconnectedness of communities in both Britain and India, where family ties and humanitarian efforts span across borders. As officials work to identify the remaining victims, the stories and legacies of those lost will undoubtedly resonate deeply within their communities, fostering a collective mourning that reaches far beyond national boundaries.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/india/air-india-plane-crash-victims-british-family-akeel-nanabawa-b2769326.html), [[2]](https://www.ft.com/content/0f1196c5-c656-4804-b84d-cc5225b4939f)
* Paragraph 2 – [[3]](https://apnews.com/article/cad8dad5cd0e92795b03d357404af5f8), [[6]](https://time.com/7293469/india-london-bound-airplane-crash-boeing-fatalities/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.reuters.com/world/india/plane-crashes-indias-ahmedabad-airport-tv-channels-report-2025-06-12/), [[5]](https://apnews.com/article/084cd112faf70d9392bd84af31847aa3)
* Paragraph 4 – [[7]](https://www.reuters.com/world/india/survivor-air-india-crash-jumped-out-emergency-exit-police-say-2025-06-12/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[2]](https://www.ft.com/content/0f1196c5-c656-4804-b84d-cc5225b4939f), [[3]](https://apnews.com/article/cad8dad5cd0e92795b03d357404af5f8)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/india/air-india-plane-crash-victims-british-family-akeel-nanabawa-b2769326.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ft.com/content/0f1196c5-c656-4804-b84d-cc5225b4939f> - On June 12, 2025, an Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner crashed shortly after taking off from Ahmedabad, India, en route to London, resulting in the deaths of 241 out of 242 people on board. The lone survivor, a British citizen named Viswash Kumar Ramesh, was hospitalized. The crash is the worst aviation disaster since 2014 and caused additional casualties on the ground, as the aircraft hit parts of BJ Medical College. The aircraft rapidly descended from 625 feet and lost its signal at 1:38 pm local time after issuing a mayday call. On board were mostly Indian nationals, with British, Portuguese, and Canadian passengers, as well as 10 crew members. The incident marks the first crash involving a 787 Dreamliner, an aircraft previously considered to have a strong safety record. Boeing, under CEO Kelly Ortberg, pledged full cooperation with the investigation amidst ongoing scrutiny over its safety practices following several past incidents involving other aircraft models. International experts, including investigators from the U.S. and U.K., are contributing to the inquiry. Indian PM Narendra Modi and UK PM Sir Keir Starmer expressed sorrow, while Air India and GE Aerospace, the engine manufacturer, are assisting authorities.
3. <https://apnews.com/article/cad8dad5cd0e92795b03d357404af5f8> - A catastrophic Air India crash occurred in Ahmedabad, India, on June 12, 2025, when a Boeing 787 Dreamliner en route to London Gatwick crashed into a residential area shortly after takeoff, killing 241 people on board. The only survivor was identified as Vishwashkumar Ramesh, a British national of Indian origin, who was thrown from the plane as it split apart. Among the casualties were five medical students on the ground, and many others were injured or feared trapped. This represents the first-ever crash of a Boeing 787, a model introduced in 2009. The crash site showed extensive wreckage and fire damage, with the aircraft's tail cone embedded in a building. Eyewitnesses reported seeing the plane descend rapidly before exploding. India's aviation authorities confirmed the crew issued a mayday call, after which communication was lost. Investigators will analyze the flight data recorder for further insights. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and King Charles III extended condolences and support, as the U.K. maintains close ties with India. Air India has pledged to prioritize support for victims' families. The tragedy marks one of the deadliest aviation incidents in recent Indian history.
4. <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/plane-crashes-indias-ahmedabad-airport-tv-channels-report-2025-06-12/> - On June 12, 2025, an Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner crashed into a medical college hostel in Ahmedabad shortly after takeoff, killing over 240 people. The London-bound Flight AI171, carrying 242 individuals, fell just moments after its 1:39 p.m. departure. The sole survivor, Ramesh Viswashkumar, a British national of Indian origin seated in 11A, recounted a loud noise before the crash. Among the dead was former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani. Authorities are verifying fatalities and collecting DNA samples for identification. The crash, confirmed as the worst aviation disaster in a decade, also claimed lives on the ground. It marked the first crash involving the Dreamliner model and India’s first fatal air incident since 2020. The aircraft, delivered to Air India in 2014, included passengers from India, the UK, Portugal, and Canada. Rescue teams, Boeing, and GE Aerospace are assisting with the investigation. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau is leading the formal probe, while political leaders around the world, including Indian Prime Minister Modi and U.S. President Trump, expressed their condolences. The crash disrupted flight operations at Ahmedabad Airport, which has since resumed limited services. Boeing’s stock dropped 5% following the disaster.
5. <https://apnews.com/article/084cd112faf70d9392bd84af31847aa3> - An Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner crashed shortly after takeoff from Ahmedabad en route to London, killing 240 people on board and some on the ground. Only one passenger, British national Vishwashkumar Ramesh, survived and is recovering in hospital. The flight crashed into B.J. Medical College, killing five students and injuring around 50. The cause remains unclear, but video footage indicates the aircraft struggled to climb before crashing into a fireball. The crash is under investigation with assistance from the U.S., U.K., and Boeing, and DNA testing is being used to identify charred remains. It is the first fatal crash involving a Boeing 787 since its introduction in 2009. Leaders worldwide, including those from the U.S., U.K., Russia, and Pakistan, expressed condolences, while India's Prime Minister Modi called the incident "heartbreaking." Boeing shares fell significantly following the news, and safety concerns are being revisited given previous incidents involving Boeing aircraft. Air India, privatized in 2022 by Tata Sons, has faced past tragedies and operational challenges. The airline confirmed the nationalities of passengers included 169 Indians, 53 British, 7 Portuguese, and 1 Canadian among the deceased.
6. <https://time.com/7293469/india-london-bound-airplane-crash-boeing-fatalities/> - A tragic aviation disaster occurred on June 12, 2025, when an Air India Boeing 787-8 bound for London crashed shortly after taking off from Ahmedabad’s Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport. The flight, carrying 242 passengers and crew—including 169 Indian, 53 British, seven Portuguese, and one Canadian nationals—went down in a residential area, reportedly striking medical college accommodation near the airport. Footage captured the plane flying low before erupting in flames upon impact, and authorities fear there are no survivors. Five people on the ground were also confirmed dead, with others injured. The aircraft lost signal minutes after takeoff at an altitude of around 625 feet. A mayday call was issued by the pilot, Captain Sumeet Sabharwal, who had 8,200 flight hours alongside co-pilot Clive Kundar with 1,100 hours. This incident marks the first crash involving a Boeing 787-8. Leaders worldwide, including Indian PM Narendra Modi, British PM Sir Keir Starmer, King Charles III, and other national leaders, expressed shock and sympathy. Boeing has acknowledged the accident and is investigating. Though tragic, the airport resumed operations within hours, as emergency services continue recovery efforts.
7. <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/survivor-air-india-crash-jumped-out-emergency-exit-police-say-2025-06-12/> - Ramesh Viswashkumar, a British national, is the only known survivor among the 242 people aboard an Air India flight that crashed near Ahmedabad en route to London. Seated in 11A near an emergency exit, Viswashkumar reportedly jumped out of the plane before or during the crash, which occurred in a residential area and medical college hostel during lunchtime, making it the world's deadliest aviation disaster in a decade. He recounted waking up surrounded by bodies and escaping the wreckage before being taken to the hospital. His brother, Ajay, was seated elsewhere on the plane and remains unaccounted for. Social media footage confirmed Viswashkumar's condition post-crash, showing him limping and injured. Police confirmed he was rescued and stressed ongoing efforts may yet uncover more survivors. Earlier reports miscounted fatalities, initially citing 294, later corrected to over 240, including people on the ground. Viswashkumar, who is married with a child, has been in contact with family members, though they remain deeply distressed over the fate of his brother.