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1% WORLD GDP TO BE SPENT ON AIR TRAVEL NEXT YEAR

Due to rising passenger numbers, 1% of the global GDP — about \$861 bn — is projected to be spent on air transport in 2018: IATA

INDUSTRY PROFIT TO HIT \$38.4BN IN '18

The global airlines' industry is projected to record a higher net profit of \$38.4 billion in 2018, primarily bolstered by strong demand, said the International Airport Transport Association. In the Asia-Pacific region, including India, airlines are expected to register profits of \$9 billion in 2018

WARNING ON AIRPORT PRIVATISATION

- IATA said governments should be cautious about privatising airports as such moves have "not lived up to expectations"
- Airports should be protected with "iron-clad regulation that prioritises the national interest", the organisation added
- Privatisation needs "careful attention and urgent thinking"

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Centre to help engg colleges hire teachers

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THE Union Ministry of Human Resources Development has offered to help private and state run engineering colleges in several states to hire "quality teachers" amid concerns that hundreds of them are struggling to fill their total capacity and most students passing out of those are unemployable.

About 85 colleges in Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been short-listed for the assistance in recruitment of teachers.

The HRD ministry will provide assistance in the form of technical and human resources to hire about 700 entry-level teachers in these institutions.