

# Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) Becomes World's 16th Busiest



The Airports Council International (ACI), the trade association of the world's airports, currently serving 641 members operating 1,953 airports across 176 countries has recently come up with a list

which includes New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) as the 16th busiest airport in the world.

## Region-wise break-up.



In 2017, passenger traffic in :

Developed countries – rose 5.2 per cent

Developing countries – rose 10.3 per cent

## The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA)

IGIA is in the national capital Delhi. It has been ranked as the 16th busiest airport in the world in terms of passengers handled on an annual basis jumping 6 places from 22nd position in 2016. It handled more than 6,340 million passengers in 2017 – 14 per cent more passengers than in 2016. IGIA is the seventh busiest airports in Asia.

Thus, it emphasizes that India is indeed one of the fastest growing domestic aviation markets in the world. It also indicates that aviation is becoming very popular everyday in

India amongst its masses.

The country's growing influence in aviation world is now evident, and it is regarded as very big achievement for India.

"It is expected that rising incomes in emerging markets will help propel global traffic to new heights in the coming decades as new aviation hubs begin to overtake the more mature markets of Western Europe and North America," ACI said in a release.

## **Airports and Airlines.**

While Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) handles more than 900 domestic and international flights on its three runways, IGIA's security and check-in facilities are regarded as world-class. However, its real value is gauged by its huge potential of generating non-aeronautical revenue, some of which are:

- IGIA's sprawling shopping areas,
- Ad spaces at arrival and departure lounges,
- Vehicle parkings

While running an airline may not generate as much profits (See Jet Airways), IGIA's earnings have a different story to tell. Unlike airlines, it does not face any competition. Rather, it



enjoys monopoly. IGIA is very well connected to the city by roads and metro rail. While the number of customers for an airline will always be limited by its seat capacity, airports like IGIA see 10 times more foot

falls since every airline passenger is accompanied by at least 2 attendants for pick-up or drop. Besides, there are numerous other people like drivers, travel agents, tour operators, IGIA staff, airlines' staff, government staff, job seekers, workers, vendors, their suppliers and their visiting guests

which together swell the foot fall at IGIA. Each such person makes use of IGIA facilities and knowingly or unknowingly adds revenue to its basket. The show goes on unabated – 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year!

IGIA's car parking facilities are awesome a study of which alone can give an idea of the investment that has been put into IGIA as well as the nature of business being carried out at IGIA.

### **IGIA car Parking Facilities:**

- Multi Level Car Parking (MLCP) – A six storied multi level car parking facility available across Terminal 3 which can accommodate upto 4300 cars at any given point welcomes the visitor at IGIA.
- Two ramps for entry and two ramps for exit on each level for easy access to vacant parking slots
- Well lit parking area, with a 24 hr CCTV surveillance,
- Each car manually screened by CISF guards and private security marshals.
- Valet Parking priced at Rs. 350/- for 2 hours.
- Four-wheel Car Parking priced at Rs. 100/- for upto 30 Mins
- Besides, there are exclusive Services for Park N Fly / Long Stay Parking Customers at IGIA's T3 Terminal like pollution check, car breakdown service, air pressure checks, and nitrogen fillings.

The scrupulous observer will see that each such service is a source of non-aeronautical revenue. And this should be co-related with the 6,340 million passengers a year who come to IGIA! *Why should not an airline like Jet Airways claim a share in revenue earned through car-parking or nitrogen fillings?*

There is also a Remote Bus Parking facility located on the approach road to T3. This facility caters to long distance,

inter state coaches coming to receive and drop off passengers.

The ACI tried to analyse the causes of IGIA scaling up the rankings. It concluded that size-able population bases and rapid increase in incomes in emerging markets are the main economic engines driving air transportation demand.