

Qatar's Hamad Int'l Airport grabs top spot as world's best

A Monitor Report

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Doha : Qatar's Hamad International Airport has grabbed the top spot as world's best airport in Skytrax Annual World Airport Awards. With this, Qatar's Hamad dethrones Singapore Changi and stops its eight-year long reign.

The Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar opened its doors in 2014 and has been rising in global airport rankings ever since.

In 2020, the airline and airport consulting firm that conducts the awards named Hamad the third best airport in the world. However, this year, the coronavirus pandemic helped bring out the best the airport had to offer.

"As travel hubs worldwide have been impacted by the pandemic, Hamad International Airport was undeterred by the global travel disruptions and continued with its expansion plans while introducing additional airport health and safety standards," said Edward Plaisted of Skytrax.

The airport is also preparing for an influx of passengers as Doha will host the FIFA World Cup in 2022 and has been implementing new changes ahead of that event, including increasing its annual capacity to 53 million passengers and building a 110,000-square-foot tropical garden, complete with a waterfall that is nearly 900 feet tall.

However, Hamad's ascent in the rankings does not mean that Changi is not still a

highly respected airport. The airport was named the world's best in the 10 to 15 million passenger category and won awards for the World's Best Airport Staff and the Best Airport Staff in Asia.

The ranking for the top 10 airports in the world is as follows: Hamad International Airport, Tokyo Haneda Airport, Singapore Changi Airport, Incheon International Airport, Narita International Airport, Munich Airport, Zurich Airport, London Heathrow Airport, Kansai International Airport, and Hong Kong International Airport.