

## IATA to hold 81st AGM in Delhi

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New Delhi: After more than 4 decades, India will host the World Air Transport Summit in June 2025. The 81st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) will be held in the national capital. The last IATA AGM in India was in 1983.

This year, IndiGo, India's largest airline by fleet size and market share, will be the host. This marks the third time India has hosted IATA's AGM, with previous events occurring in 1958 and 1983.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia posted on X, "Proud moment for Indian aviation as we march ahead to host the 81st IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit in June 2025. Under PM @narendramodi Ji's leadership, the sector has grown tremendously with a record passenger count, development of world-class infrastructure, enhanced regional connectivity, and historic aircraft orders."

IATA's DG Willie Walsh is very optimistic about the Indian market. He said, "Amazed at what potential exists in India. Way back in 2000, the Indian domestic market represented 0.4pc of global aviation; last year it was 1.8pc. India is growing, and it's growing at quite a fast pace. When you consider that the Chinese domestic market is 12pc of global aviation, you see the potential that exists in India."

He further stated, "India's potential will only be unlocked if the right government policies are in place, and I suspect that it will happen in time. If India is to fulfill the ambition of its industry and play its part as a global carrier, then it's going to need access to markets around the world. If you want to get access, you're going to have to give access. I remain really optimistic about India."

On the issue of seat sharing between the Gulf and India, Emirates President Sir Tim Clark said, "What the Indian government chooses to do and how it chooses to run its aeropolitical policies is up to India. If they wish to propose that solution on a 4:1 basis, they can obviously engage with the governments in the Gulf. We are here to just execute the policy. So I'm not swerving it, but I'm simply saying these are intergovernmental issues that need to be resolved at the governmental level."

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