

New Delhi named routes Asia 2027 host

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Dhaka: New Delhi has been announced as the host city for the 23rd edition of Routes Asia, the leading air service development forum for the Asia-Pacific region.

The event will be hosted by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), with the announcement made on 2 September.

India's aviation sector is witnessing unprecedented growth, driven by record-breaking aircraft orders, substantial infrastructure investment, and rising demand from a growing middle class.

With strong government backing, strategic policies, and a robust regulatory environment, the country is on track to become one of the world's largest aviation markets.

Currently served by over 60 domestic and international carriers, India has solidified its role as a regional aviation hub.

According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, the country welcomed 20 million international visitors in 2024, a rise of 2.3 million over pre-pandemic figures.

The number of operational airports in India has more than doubled over the past decade, growing from 74 in 2014 to over 160 today.

Looking ahead, the government plans to build 350 airports by 2047, including 34 mega airports.

“India presents an exciting opportunity for the route development community,” said Steven Small, Director of Routes. “Previous host airports have seen network growth outpace peers by nearly 6.9pc within three years. Routes Asia 2027 will further accelerate this momentum.”

With over 100 leading and emerging airlines expected to participate, the event will provide a platform for India to showcase its aviation infrastructure and investment pipeline to key industry decision-makers.

Vipin Kumar, Chairman of AAI, said, “As we welcome the world to Routes Asia 2027, we embark on a journey to unlock the limitless potential of our skies. Together, we will drive connectivity, promote inclusive growth, and showcase the wonders of Incredible India.”

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