

Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport among the world's busiest

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In news— As per Airports Council International (ACI), Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has entered the club of the world's top 10 busiest airports by passenger traffic.

Key updates-

- The **global trade association of airports ranked the Delhi airport at the ninth spot** for 2022.
- **India is the world's third-largest aviation market that is rapidly growing.**
- As per ACI data, the **Delhi airport handled almost 5.95 crore passengers in 2022.**
- The airport was **ranked as the 13th busiest for 2021 and 17th busiest for 2019.**
- The **Delhi airport is India's largest and the only airport from South and Southeast Asia to feature in ACI's list of the 10 busiest airports.**
- **The Atlanta airport in the United States retained its position as the world's busiest airport,** having handled 9.37 crore passengers last year.
- In fact, **five of the 10 busiest airports for 2022 are in the US.** These include Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Chicago, and Los Angeles.
- Dubai, Istanbul, and London Heathrow were the other airports in the top-10 list.
- It is worth noting that **none of the Chinese airports featured in the list as the country was under strict pandemic-related curbs till late-2022.**
- However, with most of the curbs on international travel

to and from China now done away with, its airports could alter the rankings for 2023.

- China is the world's second-largest aviation market after the US.
- Despite being ranked as the ninth busiest airport globally, the Delhi airport did not feature among the busiest airports by international passengers handled, which means that India's resurgent domestic passenger traffic mainly contributed to the improvement in the airport's overall ranking.
- The same appears to be true for US airports as well, as none was among the top 10 airports by international passenger traffic.
- **On that count, mega-hub Dubai retained the pole position as it handled almost 6.61 crore international travellers in 2022, followed by London Heathrow** with 5.82 crore international flyers.
- Others in this segment included hubs like Amsterdam, Paris, Istanbul, Frankfurt, Madrid, Doha, and Singapore.