

# M.P. Birla Institute of Management

Associate Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan

## MPBIM students visit Bangalore International Airport - A Report

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CII-Young Indians Bangalore Chapter organized visit to Bangalore International Airport Ltd., The visit was held on 27th December 2012 and attended by 19 students who were accompanied by Sri Ansuman Parida of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The visit was a part of CII-Young Indians initiative.

Bengaluru International Airport (IATA: BLR, ICAO: VOBL) is an international airport serving the city of Bangalore. The airport is 40 kilometres from the central business district of Bangalore and covers 5,130 acres (2,080 ha).



It was the fourth busiest airport in the country in terms of overall passenger traffic of 12.69 million and fifth busiest in terms of international passenger traffic. It has been awarded "India's best airport" for the year 2011 by the survey conducted by Skytrax.

The airport handled about 12.6 million passengers and had air traffic movements (ATM) of about 330 per day in the year 2011. The airport is expected to handle 18 million passengers in the year 2015. It is host to 10 domestic airlines and 21 international airlines connecting the city to about 50 destinations across India and rest of the world and serves as a focus city for Jet Airways, JetLite, IndiGo, SpiceJet, GoAir.



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## BIAL - Formation

BIAL is a Public Limited Company under the Companies Act formed to build, own and operate the Bangalore International Airport. BIAL has been given rights to develop, design, finance, operate and manage the airport for a period of 30 years from the date of commencement of commercial flight operations. It also has an option to extend the right for an additional 30 years.

## Holding Pattern

### Private promoters hold a 74%

GVK 43%, Siemens 26% and Unique Zurich 5%

### Government holds 26%

KSSIDC 13% and Airport Authority of India 13%



## Facilities

The airport has a Fuel Farm and Hydrant System of the airport, a 36 kilometres (22 mi) fuel pipeline was commissioned in October 2009 by Indian Oil from Devanagonthi to the airport to reduce the need to transport jet fuel to the airport.

## Cargo village

The cargo village houses 120 freight forwarders and 80 custom house agents and can accommodate parking of nearly 80 trucks. There are two cargo terminals in the village. One of the terminals is operated by **Menzies Aviation Bobba Pvt Ltd**. This terminal has an initial capacity to handle 150,000 metric tons (170,000 short tons) of cargo. The other terminal is operated by **Air India SATS Joint Venture consortium**. This terminal has a two floor warehouse with a capacity of 200,000 metric tons (220,000 short tons).

## Airport expansion plans

In January 2010, BIAL embarked on expansion plan and fast tracked construction of a new state of the art terminal building.

- The first phase of construction of the new terminal is expected to cater to passenger traffic of about 15 million per year. There are also plans to expand the new terminal to cater to 36 million passengers per year.

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- The existing terminal would be expanded to cater to 17 million passengers per year.
- The expansion would also increase the number of check-in counters and the seating capacity at the waiting areas. Once done, Terminal 1 would sport a brand new look and will be capable of handling the A380 aircraft.
- To reduce the number of flight delays due to fog it is proposed that the runway will be upgraded to Category III B standard. This upgrading will be done when the second runway will be constructed (along with Terminal 2).
- After expansion the terminal will have a floor area of 360,000 m<sup>2</sup> (3,900,000 sq ft).

## Awards won by BIAL

- BIA was awarded The Routes Asia Airport Marketing Award chosen among five other airports in the Indian sub-continent.
- At the Emerging Markets Airports Awards 2010, held in Dubai, BIA was awarded The Best Emerging Airport in Indian sub-continent.
- Received a platinum certification from IATA in January 2010 for becoming The first airport in India to be 100% Bar Coded Boarding Passes (BCBP) compliant.
- At the CNBC AWAAZ Travel Awards 2010 held at Delhi, BIA was awarded The Best Managed Airport in India.

We were taken around by Operations head of the department. He guided us through the entrance following through the booking section wherein different sections were termed as Island A, B, C for domestic and International bookings. Allocating the booking sections for national and international booking is dependent on air traffic. Usually at night Island B and C are meant for international booking and in day B is reverted to domestic airlines.

Airline operators are allotted the respective sections with link to conveyer belts taking baggage to scanner system for X-ray scanning which happens in multiple stages for much efficiency. The operation system does not have manual security check at the entrance at all times, but there are advance technologies used to detect and scan entrants using wireless technologies and scanners.

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Overall scanning system was briefed to us, taking us inside the scanner equipment zone, from where the scanned baggage are dispatched according to priority of flyer timings.

Institution had provided transportation facilities for the visit. We were not permitted to go to Airport Terminal control room in view of security restrictions. Nevertheless, the visit which lasted 2 hrs and 30 mins, gave us a good insight into operations of a modern international Airport.

Overall it was an overwhelming experience totally and great platform for young executives to explore.



Cargo Terminals at Bangalore International Airport



Expansion work in progress