

Terminal 3's hallmark is passenger convenience

LUCKNOW : Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the integrated Terminal 3 (T3) of the Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport (CCSIA) aka Lucknow airport at a public rally in Azamgarh on Sunday. Built at a cost of Rs 2,400 crore, T3 will cater to domestic and international flights, with capacity to handle 4,000 passengers during peak hours.

Phase I of the world-class terminal can cater to 8 million passengers per annum, with elevated pathways separating the arrival and departure flows. Phase 2 will enhance the handling capacity to 13 million passengers per annum.

Addressing the gathering after the inauguration of the new terminal at Lucknow airport, defence minister Rajnath Singh said there had been a lot of challenges but under PM Modi's leadership, they were transformed into opportunities.

"Earlier, air travel was considered for elite class only but PM Modi bridged the gap between the poor and the rich by enhancing the regional connectivity, through 'Ude Desh ka Aam



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Karan Adani, MD of Adani Port and SEZ Limited, and Vidhan Sabha speaker Satish Mahana during the inauguration of Terminal-3, in Lucknow on Sunday.

DEEPAK GUPTA/HT PHOTO

Nagarik (UDAN) scheme," Singh added. "I am fortunate that I am the MP from Lucknow, which was once represented by former MP Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It makes me feel proud that our city and India are continuously developing under the leadership of PM Modi," he said.

In 2014, we had 74 airports but now we have 149 airports in our country, Singh added.

Speaking on the occasion, Karan Adani, managing director, Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone Ltd, said, "Our vision for CCSIA is big and far reaching. The master plan aims to expand

the airport's capacity to ultimately serve 38 million passengers annually by 2047-48."

The new terminal buildings at Kanpur, Rajkot and Maharishi Valmiki international airport, Ayodhya Dham, were also inaugurated by the PM on Sunday. The projects are aimed at augmenting passenger amenities and giving a fillip to local economy. The 12 new terminal buildings are being developed at a total cost of Rs 8,903 crore, having a combined capacity to serve 61.5 million (615 lakh) passengers annually.

However, the elegant terminal

of Lucknow has state-of-the-art amenities and features for passenger convenience. While 72 check-in counters (including 17 for self-baggage drop) and 62 immigration counters will ensure swift and smooth transit of passengers, modern lounges will elevate their comfort.

The newly constructed apron will increase passenger boarding gates from 7 to 13 and passenger boarding bridges from 2 to 7. At present, the airport connects 24 domestic and 8 international destinations. The capacity augmentation will help in improving its operational efficiency substantially. T3 will also simplify travel with technologies such as DigiYatra, common use self-service kiosks, automated tray retrieval systems, and advanced baggage screening machines. An out-of-this-world audio-visual experience has been brought to life at the airport with the art and architecture of U.P. The check-in counters will mesmerise passengers with illuminated motifs of 'chikankari' and 'mukaish' embroidery. Graphics on frosting depict stories from epics such as Ramayana and the Mahabharata.