

Media Release

Delhi International Airport initiates export promotion of North-Eastern Agro-products at domestic and international markets

- *Provides state-of-the-art air cargo facility for export of Northeast's perishable products*
- *Enables exporters from northeast states to connect with international market by providing air cargo infrastructure*
- *The initiative in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Act East policy*

New Delhi, 13th October 2017: Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL), a GMR Group led consortium, today announced that it has taken first-of-its-kind initiative to promote export of perishable agro-produces from North-Eastern (NE) states of the country. DIAL will help north-eastern states to connect with international market through world-class air cargo infrastructure at the Indira Gandhi International Airport.

DIAL has been emerging as an International Air Cargo Hub of India, which is in line with the Ministry of Civil Aviation's (MoCA) initiative for Indian Airport to be a hub.

In 2016, DIAL had initiated a study to assess the potential of agro exports from north eastern region to international market. It concluded that the export of agro products north eastern region was restricted to nearby countries like Bangladesh, Myanmar etc. due to lack of rail, road, air connectivity. Very few exporters were able to send their produce to Kolkata using road as a mode of transportation.

DIAL in association with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority's (APEDA), have come together to start export of perishable food products from the north eastern region to international markets. Initially, perishable products including pineapple, kiwi, ginger, flowers etc. would be exported via Delhi Airport.

Commenting on the initiative, **Mr. I. Prabhakara Rao, CEO, Delhi International Airport Ltd** said, "***We are pleased to be a bridge between north eastern states and international market. This initiative is also in line with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to place northeast at the forefront of***

the country's Act East initiative, thereby promote expansion of trade from north eastern states to other countries including South East Asian countries.

He further added, ***"DIAL has been consistently working towards making Delhi Airport a cargo gateway to India and the world. With this initiative, DIAL that had evolved from cargo facilitator to business partner has now moved to become a business developer."***

As part of the initiative, the first consignment of agro-produce has commenced its journey from Agartala, capital of north eastern state Tripura on 12th October and has been flagged off today for Dubai after completion of custom clearance at IGI Airport.

Recently, DIAL also initiated cargo shipment of Northeast's agro-based products to wider domestic markets. The first consignment from the region was ferried to Delhi from Guwahati on 11th Sep'17 for domestic consumption.

The north-eastern region of India, comprises of eight states - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim, have vast physiographical variations, which have been represented in six agro-climatic zones. The region is one of the richest reservoirs of genetic variability and diversity of different crops, i.e. various kinds of fruits, different vegetables, spices, ornamental plants and also medicinal and aromatic plants.

About DIAL

The GMR Group led, Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) is a consortium; comprising of GMR Group, Airports Authority of India and Fraport. The consortium has a mandate to finance, design, build, operate and maintain the Delhi Airport for 30 years with an option to extend it by another 30 years. **It has truly proven to be a shining example of Public Private Partnership (PPP) and Make in India.** Delhi Airport has been adjudged as **World's second best Airport by Airports Council International's (ACI) in 2016 in the category of above 40 million passengers per annum (mppa).** DIAL completed the modernization of Delhi's IGI Airport including the commissioning of Terminal 3 (T3)- India's largest building post-independence in a record time of 37 months.

The passenger Terminals managed by DIAL are recognised for their state-of-the-art infrastructure, design and operational efficiency. T3 serves as a hub for many carriers and has truly redefined the way Indian passengers fly. Delhi Airport is a leading Indian airport both in Passenger and Cargo capabilities with an annual traffic of 46 mppa and Cargo tonnage of over 0.86 million tons.



DIAL lays strong emphasis on green sustainable technologies and has won numerous awards and recognitions for the environmental sustainability initiatives.

About GMR Infrastructure Limited

GMR Group is a leading global infrastructure conglomerate with interests in Airport, Energy, Transportation and Urban Infrastructure. The group has fifteen power generation projects of which ten are operational and five are under development and construction stages. Besides, it has seven operating road assets and a double rail track line between Mughalsarai-New Bhaupur (Kanpur) of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor is under development.

GMR Group's airport portfolio comprises of India's busiest Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Hyderabad and the new Greenfield Airport at Mopa, Goa which is still under development. Overseas, GMR Group along with its partner Megawide construction is developing and operating Mactan Cebu airport in Philippines and has won the rights to develop and operate the greenfield airport at Heraklion, Crete, Greece in partnership with GEK Terna. The Group is also developing two Special Investment Regions at Krishnagiri and Kakinada and India's largest Smart Airport City near Hyderabad International Airport.

GMR Group, through its Corporate Social Responsibility arm, GMR Varalakshmi Foundation, carries out community-based development initiatives at 29 locations in India and Nepal in the areas of education; health, hygiene and sanitation; empowerment and livelihoods; and community development.

For further information about GMR Group, visit

<http://www.gmrgroup.in/index.html>

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