



Airport Codes

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Why in News?

The **upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar** was recently awarded its **own unique international three-letter code, 'DXN'**, by the [International Air Transport Association \(IATA\)](#).

- **'D'** signifies **Delhi**, **'N'** represents **Noida**, and **'X'** symbolizes connectivity to the globe.

What are Airport Codes?

▪ About:

- Airport codes serve as **distinctive identifiers for airports worldwide**. These codes are essential for a **seamless travel experience** and are used in various contexts, from **tickets and boarding passes to airport signage**.

▪ Types:

- Each airport actually has two unique codes: **one assigned by IATA and another by the [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#)**, a branch of the [United Nations](#). These codes have distinct purposes:
 - **IATA Codes (Three-Digit Codes):**
 - Created in the 1960s to standardize airport identification.
 - Used for **passenger-facing operations**.
 - Appear on **tickets, boarding passes, signage**, and other consumer-related materials.
 - Examples include **DEL for Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi)** and **BOM for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (Mumbai)**.
 - **ICAO Codes (Four-Digit Codes):**
 - Utilized by **industry professionals such as pilots, air traffic controllers, and airport planners**.
 - Facilitate **precise communication in aviation**.
 - Examples include **VIDP for Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi)**.

International Air Transport Association

- IATA is the trade association for the world's airlines, representing some 300 airlines or **83% of total air traffic**.
 - It was founded in **Havana, Cuba, in April 1945**.
- **Head Office:** Montreal, Canada.

International Civil Aviation Organization

- In 1944, **54 nations** came together to draft the Convention on International Civil Aviation, also known as the '[Chicago Convention](#).'
- ICAO came into being on **4th April 1947**. In **October 1947**, ICAO became a specialized agency of

the **United Nations linked to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).**

- India is one of the **ICAO's founder members**, having attended the Chicago Conference in 1944
- ICAO is dedicated to **developing safe and efficient international air transport for peaceful purposes** and ensuring a reasonable opportunity for every state to operate international airlines.
- **Headquarter:** Montreal, Canada

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