



## Delhi Declaration on Civil Aviation

**Source: PIB**

Recently, the **2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation**, hosted in India in collaboration with the **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)** concluded with the adoption of the **Delhi Declaration**. The 80th anniversary of the founding of the ICAO coincided with the Conference.

- The event **gathers global aviation leaders** to discuss cooperation, explore new opportunities, and build relationships in the sector. It saw participation from delegates of 29 countries, ministers, policymakers, and 8 international organisations including ICAO.
- The Prime Minister praised India's advancements in aviation technology and infrastructure and highlighted the sector's inclusivity, noting that **15% of Indian pilots are women**, surpassing the **global average of 5%**.
  - India has emerged as the **third-largest domestic aviation market** in the world, after the US and China.
  - **India's Initiatives Related to Aviation Industry:**
    - [UDAN Scheme \(Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik\)](#)
    - [National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016](#)
    - [GST](#) reduced to 5% from 18% for domestic Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services
    - [Open Sky Agreement](#)
    - [Digi Yatra](#)
- The ICAO is a specialised agency of the [United Nations \(UN\)](#) that **coordinates international air navigation** and fosters the **planning and development of international air transport** to ensure safe and orderly growth.
  - It was **founded in 1944** and is headquartered in **Montreal**, Canada.
  - It was established by the **Chicago Convention (Convention on International Civil Aviation)** which is an international treaty that **governs international aviation**.

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