

Bahrain's new terminal to serve larger role in Middle East

A Monitor Report

Date: 15 February, 2021



Manama: Bahrain's new USD 1.1 billion airport terminal will have capacity to handle 14 million passengers per year, offering the Middle East a vastly improved alternative when flyers return to the sky.

Almost 10 million passengers travelled through the terminal it replaces, a facility originally built to handle only 4 million annual passengers.

Although the number of passengers has fallen due to border closures and less flying during the pandemic, Mohammed Al Binfalah, CEO of Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), said he expects those numbers to increase as people's confidence in flying returns.

The new 210,000 square-meter terminal has the capacity to serve 130,000 flights a year. The airport modernisation project being built in two phases, starting in 2016, and was completed within budget.

The terminal was built by Arabtec TAV, a joint venture between the UAE's Arabtec and Turkey's TAV Construction. It opened last Thursday with 12 dual jetways for narrow-body aircraft, and 50 per cent of the second phase completed. The remaining construction is underway for 10 new remote hard stands to receive additional flights.

The terminal is accredited through to the Airports Council International (ACI)

World Airport Health Accreditation program for taking measures to ensure the health and safety of staff and passengers during the coronavirus pandemic. These measures include hand sanitiser dispensers through the terminal, having available masks and gloves to dispense, frequent sterilisations and enforcing social distancing, Al Binfalah said.