

# Relax And Unwind At The BIA's Brand New Silk Route Departure Lounge



The ambient interior of the Silk Route Departure Lounge

The Silk Route Departure Lounge, exclusively for Commercially Important Passengers (CIPs), was opened at the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA). It was launched by the Airport and Aviation Services Sri Lanka (AASL) in partnership with Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel.

As exclusive guests of the Silk Route Lounge, CIPs have the opportunity to relax in luxury and comfort while enjoying the convenience of an expedited check-in as well as immigration and customs process. The Silk Route Departure Lounge is specially designed to provide convenience that prioritises guest comfort at all times.

Mobitel, partnering with AASL in this endeavour, will equip the Lounge with state-of-the-art communication services including free Wi-Fi access to passengers enjoying the exclusive benefits provided at the Lounge. The Silk Route Departure Lounge is expected to create an indelible impression of Sri Lanka and its

renowned hospitality, while reflecting the country's state-of-the-art infrastructure and service standards to potential investors, very important visitors and other important guests.

Priyankara Jayaratne, Minister of Civil Aviation, ceremonially opened the brand new Departure Lounge. Speaking at the event, the Minister said that in order to realise Sri Lanka's aspirations to become the Wonder of Asia, the aviation sector must be developed. He added, "Transforming the Bandaranaike International Airport into one of the best airports in Asia is a milestone in that journey and we are well on our way towards achieving that goal."

At the launch ceremony, Prasanna Wickramasuriya, Chairman of AASL said, "We believe that the addition of the Silk Route Departure Lounge will further enhance the standards and appeal of the Bandaranaike International Airport, which is already considered one of the best airports in the region. With the recent influx of tourists into our country, it is important that state-of-the-art facilities and high service standards are in place to broadcast the nation's growth potential to prospective stakeholders. Prior to their departure from our country, our main objective is to ensure that their brief stay in the Lounge is both relaxing and luxurious while giving them a final glance into the true Sri Lankan hospitality that our country is widely renowned for."

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