

GMR Airports Ltd — Oct 2024 Quarterly Analysis

1. VERDICT & BUSINESS QUALITY SNAPSHOT

Result: Inline **One-line:** Robust operational growth in traffic (+8% YoY) and Aero Yields (+9% YoY) is currently being swallowed by the "J-curve" of the capital cycle—specifically the massive spike in interest and depreciation following the capitalization of Delhi and Hyderabad expansions.

Dimension	This Quarter	Signal / Evidence	Sentiment
Beat/Miss vs Guidance	Inline	Revenue (₹2,600 Cr) and EBITDA (₹960 Cr) grew 20% and 17% YoY, matching the trajectory of capacity expansion.	□
Earnings Quality	Moderate	Core EBITDA is strong, but P&L is impacted by non-cash depreciation and high interest; includes ₹108.7 Cr exceptional income.	□
Guidance Confidence	Strong	Expansion at Delhi and Hyderabad is commissioned; Goa expansion (4.4 to 7.7 MPPA) is 99% complete.	□
Management Credibility	Strong	Successfully completed the GAL-GIL merger and secured a ₹630 Cr ADIA deal to refinance promoter debt and reduce pledge.	□
Business Quality Signal	Improving	Transitioning from a construction-heavy firm to an operator with a unified platform for high-margin adjacencies (Duty-Free, Cargo).	□
Key Q&A Exchange	N/A	Section not applicable — investor presentation only.	□
The Street's Primary Anxiety	Leverage & Tariffs	Total Net Debt rose to ₹28,700 Cr; clarity on Delhi CP4 tariff remains the primary valuation catalyst.	□
Capital Cycle Stage	Harvesting	Shifting from heavy capex at major hubs to operationalizing new capacity (Delhi T1 and Hyderabad expansion).	□
Margin / Return Ratio Trajectory	Stable	Consolidated EBITDA margins held at 49-50% despite increased operating expenses from new terminal areas.	□
Pricing Power	Expanding	Aero Yield per Pax rose 9% YoY; winning the Delhi Duty Free concession allows for better vertical integration.	□
FCF Conversion & Quality	Weak	Negative at the PAT level due to interest costs (₹1,031 Cr) exceeding EBITDA (₹961.8 Cr); OCF is utilized for balance capex.	□
Competitive Moat Signals	Widening	Captured 28% of India's total passenger traffic in H1FY25; signed Nagpur concession, expanding the hub-and-spoke network.	□
Balance Sheet Strength	Stressed	Net Debt increased to ₹28,700 Cr (+21% YoY) as final expansion bills were settled.	□
Working Capital Efficiency	Stable	Revenue share payments to AAI/MoCA track revenue growth without significant divergence.	□
Mgmt Guidance Track Record	Reliable	Delivery on terminal operationalization (Delhi T1, Hyd Expansion) remains on schedule.	□
Key Vulnerability	P&L Drag	The timing gap between terminal capitalization (immediate interest/depr hit) and tariff resets (future revenue hit).	□
Management Tone	Confident	Tone focused on "Breakout Growth" and "Unlocking Real Estate" via self-development.	□

Sentiment: □Positive

Key Takeaways (Positives & Negatives): * **Positives:** Traffic growth remains resilient (+8% YoY) despite a high base; International traffic growth (+12% YoY) is outperforming, boosting higher-margin Aero Yields and Duty-Free Spend per Pax. The ADIA transaction (₹630 Cr) is a structural positive, removing the "promoter pledge" overhang and consolidating lenders. Vertical integration is accelerating, with GAL winning the Delhi Duty-Free concession and taking over car parking at Hyderabad. * **Negatives:** The P&L loss widened to ₹430 Cr (from ₹190.4 Cr YoY) due to the "interest cliff"—interest and finance charges jumped 53% YoY to ₹1,031 Cr as capitalization ended. Net Debt continues to climb, reaching ₹28,700 Cr. * **Forward-looking watchpoint:** The upcoming Delhi CP4 tariff determination by AERA is the most critical driver for deleveraging and turning the P&L green.

2. BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

2A. KEY METRICS

DATA SOURCE: PPT figures used as primary source. Concall available as directory/summary; commentary absent for Q&A.

Metric	Current Qtr (Q2FY25)	YoY Change	QoQ Change	Trend	Mgmt Commentary
Total Income (₹Cr)	₹2,600	↑ 20%	↑ 3%	↑	Driven by 8% traffic growth and higher Aero Yields.
EBITDA (₹Cr)	₹961.8	↑ 17%	↓ 5%	→	Margin compression (49% vs 52% last qtr) due to revenue share on JV dividends and annual increments.
EBITDA Margin %	49%	↓ 300bps	↓ 300bps	↓	Seasonal and employee cost impacts; expansion opex ramp-up.
PAT (₹Cr)	(₹428.8)	↓ (Loss)	↓ (Loss)	↓	Impacted by ₹1,031 Cr interest and ₹474.2 Cr depreciation.
Net Debt (₹Cr)	₹28,700	↑ 21%	↑ 2.5%	↓	Increased by ₹700 Cr due to Delhi balance capex and Bhogapuram borrowings.
Passenger Traffic (Mn)	31.5	↑ 8%	↓ 1%	→	Strong growth in International traffic (+12% YoY) offset by seasonal domestic softness.
Aero Yield Per Pax (₹)	₹260	↑ 9%	↑ 4%	↑	Pricing increase driven by higher international pax mix.
Non-aero Inc/Pax (₹)	₹363	↑ 1%	↑ 3%	↑	Driven by Duty-Free spend and F&B growth at major hubs.
Duty-free SPP - Delhi (₹)	₹1,005	↑ 1.4%	↓ 1.4%	→	SPP grew vs H1 last year; GAL to take over direct operations in July 2025.
Delhi (DIAL) EBITDA (₹Cr)	₹398.3	↓ 0.7%	↑ 1.5%	→	Margin pressure from expansion opex and higher revenue share.
Hyderabad (GHIAL) EBITDA (₹Cr)	₹368.8	↑ 8.7%	↑ 2%	↑	Strong operational performance following expansion commissioning.
Goa (GGIAL) EBITDA (₹Cr)	₹40.6	↑ 776%	↓ 11%	↑	YoY comparison vs base; QoQ decline reflects monsoon seasonality in Goa.

2B. SEGMENT BREAKDOWN

Segment	Revenue (₹ Cr)	YoY Growth	Margin	Trend	vs Co. Avg	Key Development
Delhi (DIAL)	₹1,378.7	↑ 10.0%	52%	→	Above	New T1 operationalized Aug '24; Delhi Duty Free license signed for 2025.
Hyderabad (GHIAL)	₹576.5	↑ 14.8%	67%	↑	High	Expansion to 34Mn capacity commissioned; launched new Pod Hotel.
Goa (Mopa)	₹97.8	↑ 134%	41%	↑	Below	40% market share in Goa system; 7.7Mn capacity expansion 99% done.
Medan (Indonesia)	₹130.0	↑ 19.5%	21%	→	Below	Traffic down 6% YoY due to airline fleet reactivation delays; EBITDA up 27% QoQ.

3. MANAGEMENT OUTLOOK & EXECUTION TRACKER

Dimension	Category	Management Target / Claim	Required Run-Rate / Mathematical Feasibility	Historical Delivery	Risk Flag
Guidance	Capex Plan	Complete Goa expansion to 7.7MPPA in Q3FY25.	99% physical progress achieved; highly feasible.	Strong	Low
Guidance	Volume / Capacity	Bhogapuram (Vizag) Airport construction.	41.8% physical progress; design complete.	Consistent	Medium
Strategy	Adjacencies	Foray into adjacency businesses (Platform level).	Won Delhi Duty Free and Nagpur Concession; integration underway.	Improving	Medium
Strategy	Real Estate	Monetize 2,520 acres of high-value land.	Self-development and thematic monetization strategy announced.	Historical Slow	High
Balance	Debt Target	Optimize debt at GAL level and reduce pledge.	ADIA deal (₹6,300 Cr) solves promoter level pledge/debt issues.	Strong (New)	Low

(N/A — no concall dialogue available for Q&A section)

5. WHAT CHANGED vs PRIOR QUARTER

What Changed	Prior Quarter (Q1FY25)	This Quarter (Q2FY25)	Direction
Net Debt	₹28,000 Cr	₹28,700 Cr	↓ (Increasing)
Interest Expense	₹889.4 Cr	₹1,031.0 Cr	↓ (Spiking)
Aero Yield (YPP)	₹249	₹260	↑ (Improving)
Corporate Status	Merger in progress	Merger complete (GIL renamed GAL)	↑ (Simplified)
Asset Portfolio	Bidder for Nagpur	Concession Agreement signed for Nagpur	↑ (Expanding)
Promoter Leverage	High Pledge/Multiple Lenders	ADIA ₹6,300 Cr deal to consolidate/reduce pledge	↑ (De-risked)
Operational Capacity	Delhi T1 expansion ongoing	Delhi T1 operationalized (Aug 17)	↑ (Capacity up)
Regulatory Outlook	AERA appeals pending	SC rules AERA appeals maintainable; heard on merits	→ (Clarity pending)

STOP HERE.