

India airport Modi opens new \$2bn hub

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, left, greets Adani chair Gautam Adani at the opening ceremony of Navi Mumbai International Airport yesterday.

Located to the east of the heaving financial hub in Navi Mumbai, or New Mumbai, the airport cost more than \$2bn to build and is 74 per cent owned by the Adani Group. It is set to begin commercial operations in December.

Modi said the project was an example of “Viksit Bharat [developed India]”, referring to India’s aspiration to attain developed-nation status by 2047.

Shaped like a lotus, India’s national flower and the emblem of Modi’s party, the airport is eventually set to serve 90mn passengers a year.

It is meant to ease chronic congestion at Mumbai’s existing international airport — also operated by Adani — which is nestled alongside crowded slums in the heart of the city.

