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rethinking CPEC deal
over 'unfair benefits'
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## Notification soon to acquire 1,220 ha for Jewar airport

Owners Holding 1,138 Hectare Have Already Given Consent

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Noida: The Uttar Pradesh goverment is likely to issue a notification soon to acquire land for the first phase of international airport in Jewar as the district administration has received consent from a large number of land holders till Monday. According to officials, the administration has received consent from 3,076 land owners which will enable the government to acquire 1,138 hectare.

The total land required for the first phase of the project is 1,220 hectare, which is in the hands of 8,300 owners. So far, the government has got consent from land owners for 93% of earmarked land, but the criteria of getting the nod from 70% land owners is yet to be met. As per the provisions of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, the consent of 70% land holders is mandatory for acquisition.

Meanwhile, a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) team also held a meeting at Gautam Buddha University on Monday and said that 1,775 families would get displaced in the project.

According to sources, farmers holding bigger plots have given their consent while small farm owners are still he-

## **KEEPING TRACK**



sitant. The social impact assessment report states that nearly 33.9% farmers own less than 0.6 acre land, 39.6% farmers own land between 0.6 to 6 acre, 15.7% farmers own land between 6 to 12.5 acre and only 5.1% farmers own between 12.5 and 18.7 acre in the area.

Balram Singh, additional district magistrate (land & acquisition), Gautam Budh Nagar, said the administration is working to complete consenttaking process as soon as possible. "We will complete the work soon. We will then submit the report to government after which the notification to

acquire the land will be issued," he said. The official, however, said the notification date has not been finalized.

Section 11 of the land acquisition Act, however, states that the government shall issue a notification with details of the land to be acquired which should be published in the official gazette and also in two daily newspapers being circulated in the area. The notification should also be uploaded on the website of the appropriate government.

The notification shall also contain a statement on the nature of the public purpose in-

volved, reasons necessitating the displacement of affected persons, summary of the Social Impact Assessment Report and particulars of the administrator appointed for the purposes of rehabilitation and resettlement.

Jewar MLA Thakur Dhirendra Singh said that on Monday he camped in different villages and convinced 106 people to give consent. "These people have only houses and no farm lands. They expressed apprehensions that they wouldn't get compensation since they have no land," he said.