



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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## Jewar airport project to take off in March

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**Greater Noida:** The foundation stone for the Jewar airport project is likely to be laid in the first week of March, local MLA Dharendra Singh said after a meeting with chief minister Yogi Adityanath late on Sunday night.

The CM had arrived in Greater Noida to oversee preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to inaugurate Petrotech 2019 on Monday.

Singh said Adityanath had directed administrative officials to expedite work related to the airport project and complete the process by February 28. He said the foundation stone could be laid between March 1 and 3 to avoid the election code of conduct, which kicks in from March 4.

"I met the chief minister on Sunday night when he made a sudden visit to Greater Noida ahead of the Prime Minister's programme. While he discussed public utility schemes and other issues concerning the district, the CM also laid to rest all speculation regarding the Jewar

airport project by directing officials present to complete all work by February 28. The foundation for the project will be laid in the first week of March, including bhoomi puja," said Dharendra Singh, the Jewar MLA.

According to the MLA, MP Mahesh Sharma had also urged officials to complete all work related to the project as early as possible.

District magistrate BN Singh echoed the MLA on the CM's request that all work be expedited. "Yes, he has asked all preliminary work to be completed at the earliest," DM Singh said.

With the Lok Sabha elections slated in the next few months, UP finance minister Rajesh Agarwal had set aside Rs 800 crore for the Jewar airport project.

Asked about the progress of work, YEIDA CEO Arun Veer Singh said: "The bid document on the airport is expected this week from the ministry of civil aviation. We expect the foundation stone laying ceremony to be held in the first week of March, most probably before March 4."