

Final land acquisition plan for Jewar airport submitted

HT Correspondent

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GREATER NOIDA: The Gautam Budh Nagar district administration on Tuesday submitted the final land acquisition proposal for the international airport at Jewar to the Uttar Pradesh chief minister's office.

The Uttar Pradesh government is expected to start acquiring land by end of October or beginning of November, an administration official said.

"As per procedure, the Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath will first approve the social impact assessment (SIA) report and the process of land acquisition will begin soon after, district magistrate BN Singh said.

On September 25, Uttar Pradesh chief secretary Anup Chandra Pandey had approved the SIA, which was put forth at a meeting in Lucknow.

In the first phase, the state government will acquire 1,257 hectares of land from six villages along the 165-km-long Yamuna expressway.

Earlier, the plan was to acquire 1,441 hectares of land from eight villages, including Rohi, Parohi, Banwaribas, Ramner, Dayanapur, Kishorpur, Mukimpur Shivara and Ranhera. However, the district administration excluded Kishorpur and Mukimpur Shivara villages from the first phase of land acquisition.

According to suggestions made by the state government, the consultant for the airport project, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) India, and other officials are studying the modalities of the concession agreement of the planning department of central government.

"The PwC is revising the con-

JEWAR: THE PLAN SO FAR

₹15,000-₹20,000 cr <small>Estimated budget for the project</small>	5,000 hectares <small>Land required for the project</small>
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- 2001:** Then UP CM Rajnath Singh proposes Greenfield Taj International Airport and Aviation Hub in Jewar
- 2010:** Then CM Mayawati supports the project in Jewar
- 2012:** UPA government states an airport cannot be set up within 150km of the IGI Airport in Delhi
- 2013:** UP government shifts the project to Agra, located 200km away from the IGI airport
- 2014:** Dr Mahesh Sharma, BJP leader and Gautam Budh Nagar MP, promises to revive the project
- 2015:** Then CM Akhilesh Yadav expresses interest in the project
- 2016 April:** UP civil aviation director Devendra Swarup conducts site inspection
- June:** Union ministry of defence clears the project
- September:** State directs YEIDA to conduct an obstacle limitation survey of the area
- 2017 March:** BJP government in UP pledges to revive the project.
- June 24:** Union civil aviation ministry gives approval to build an international airport at Jewar.
- July:** CM Yogi Adityanath expedites Jewar airport project
- October 13:** UP government appoints YEIDA as nodal agency for the project
- October 16:** UP government directs YEIDA to hire a consultant, who will help in making detailed project report and technical feasibility report
- October 27:** YEIDA begins process of hiring of a consultant for making a DPR and TFR
- November:** YEIDA hires PwC to prepare TEFR for the project
- 2018 March 15:** PwC submits draft TEFR report
- April 3:** Ministry of civil aviation and UP government expresses satisfaction over progress
- March 15:** UP government applies for in-principle approval
- June 24:** Civil aviation ministry approves plan

cession agreement. Once the state approves the agreement modalities, the process of selection of a developer for the project will start," a senior official said.

Once the proposal is notified, officials said, the focus will be on the rehabilitation plan for around 2,200 families, whose houses will be relocated. "The process of taking consent from farmers has been done in the most transpar-

ent and democratic way," Singh maintained.

"Several agencies, including the micro small medium enterprise association of Noida, are coming forward to help us in the rehabilitation process. Builders, industrialists etc will help provide jobs, healthcare facilities to those who are giving their land for the airport project," added Singh.