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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Jewar may turn into integrated airport city

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Greater Noida: Nearly 5,000 hectares of land around the upcoming Jewar airport is set to be developed along the lines of an aerotropolis — a fully integrated city with infrastructure, land use and economy built around an airport.

For this purpose, Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has hired consultant Ernst & Young (E&Y) to study the best practices at top international airports and prepare a feasibility report by the end of September.

“Right now the plan is at an initial stage where we are getting the feasibility report prepared by E&Y. It is expected by the end of this month,” Meena Bhargava, general manager (planning), YEIDA, said, adding that the final decision will be based on the report.

An aerotropolis is a model consisting of an airport city, outlying corridors and clusters of aviation-linked businesses and residential hubs that feed off each other and their accessibility to the airport. The concept was originally championed by John Kasarda, director of the Centre for Air Commerce at the University of North Carolina and author of *Aerotropolis: The Way We'll Live Next*. Among prominent examples are Amsterdam's Zuidas and South Korea's Songdo International Business District.

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YEIDA is planning to develop parks, universities, vocational institutes, malls, convention centres, golf course, warehouse godowns and wholesale markets, among others, in the region. A planetarium and a national memorial are also in the pipeline.

According to YEIDA CEO Arun Vir Singh, apart from the 5,000 hectares earmarked in the first phase, an additional 1,500 hectares will also be developed around the airport. The remaining phases will be as per air traffic and other requirements.

Singh added that the idea behind the move is to ensure that the YEIDA region around the airport has a wholesome development, in sync with the local area, its people and their needs.

“While Delhi-NCR already has Indira Gandhi International airport, the region is now getting its second international airport at Jewar. Just like top dual airports around the world and the areas around them are equipped with the best infrastructure, similar practices will be used for Jewar airport area too for all-round integrated develop-