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J'khand CM Hemant
Soren for over
9 hrs in the alleged
₹1,000-crore stone &
sand mining
scam in Sahibganj

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Govt pushes for '23 completion of airport terminal building, runway

ATC Tower To Be Ready Too, Trials By Jan '24, Say Officials After Inspection

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Noida: The state government is pushing for the completion of the runway, air traffic control (ATC) tower and the terminal building of the Noida international airport by December next year, which is well before the October 2024 commissioning deadline for the mega project as well as the general election that is due that summer.

Additional chief secretary SP Goyal and senior officials of the Yamuna Authority and the Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL) — a subsidiary of concessionaire Zurich AG — conducted a joint inspection on Wednesday of the site where 1,450 workers are currently engaged, mainly for excavation.

But as the work picks up pace, the number is likely to



Senior officials and the additional chief secretary inspected the site

touch 6,000 in a month. Over the past few weeks, the number of machines has increased to 86 from 49.

“Work on the runway and the ATC tower will most likely be completed by November 2023. The terminal building will also be electrified by December 15. The trials will start from January 2024,” said Arun Vir Singh, the CEO of Noida International Airport Authority

(NIAL), the government’s special purpose vehicle for the project.

Singh said that in keeping with the norms, the directorate general of civil aviation (DGCA) would conduct trials of all systems every six months. The ATC tower will be inspected every month, he added.

On Wednesday, Goyal visited the casting sites and other workshops set up by

Tata Projects Ltd, which is building the airport. He also toured the godowns for steel and construction material. There are two casting sites, one of them near the plot where the terminal building is coming up.

In order to accommodate the increasing number of workers, a dormitory with 6,000 beds has also been set up at the project site. Bunk beds have been built to accommodate 12 persons in each room. There are separate sections that house the kitchen, a medical facility and bathrooms.

Singh said work on the runway was on track. “The land has been levelled and stones are being laid on the ground. The additional chief secretary asked YIAPL officials to speed up the work and deploy more workers and machines, if needed. We are quite confident that the

work will be over before time. A timeline has been shared with us and the work is progressing accordingly,” he added.

The Noida airport, officials said, would be the only such facility in the country where aircraft stands are designed to efficiently swing operations between domestic and international flights.

“NIA would be the only airport in India offering a mixed rotation of stands between domestic and international operations in its true sense. The swing aircraft stand concept of mixed rotation will result in efficient operations by allowing faster turnarounds for both airlines and passengers,” said Christoph Schnellmann, the YIAPL CEO. A fuel farm — an extensive fuel hydrant system — will connect all the aircraft parking stands, officials said.