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Metro to Jewar airport planned via Aqua Line, decision this month

29km Route, Interchange at Pari Chk Station

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Greater Noida: As the UP government looks to launch the construction of the first phase of Jewar airport soon, it is considering building a 29km metro line to connect it with the newly commissioned Noida metro line. Pari Chowk has been proposed as the interchange station.

Officials said DMRC, which built the Noida metro, has completed the techno-feasibility report of the 29km corridor. The report will be presented to the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) next week and will be taken up at its 65th board meeting of the later this month.

The proposed corridor, fully elevated, from Pari Chowk to Jewar comprises a 3km section inside the airport to make accessibility easy. It will pass through sectors 17, 17A, 18, 20, 21, 22D, 22E, 28 and 29 of the YEIDA area. "We are expecting the final feasibility report from DMRC on metro connectivity to Jewar via Pari Chowk in Greater Noida next Monday," YEIDA CEO Arunvir Singh said. "They have completed the report, including map study and route extension, which we will be presented in our board meeting for approval. Once cleared, we can expect work to begin on metro connectivity to Jewar sometime this year, following a decision on the central-state share of funding for the project," Singh added.

₹800cr allocated for Jewar airport

With Lok Sabha elections in sight, finance minister Rajesh Agarwal on Thursday presented UP's biggest-ever budget which had the distinct mark of chief minister Yogi Adityanath. So, while the government opened its purse strings for big-ticket infrastructure projects and social welfare schemes, there was generous allocation for developing religious sites and development of gaushalas. However, to balance it out and project its intention of 'inclusive growth', the government also jacked up allocation for modernisation of madrasas and scholarship for minority students.

Agarwal set aside Rs 800 crore for the Jewar international airport project, whose land acquisition process is under way. The minister also allocated nearly Rs 3,400 crore for the development of three new expressways — Purvanchal, Bundelkhand and Gorakhpur Link Expressway. With Ganga Expressway already announced last month, the three — along with Lucknow-Agra Expressway — will cover practically the entire state. However, the Ganga Expressway, announced with much fanfare during Kumbh cabinet last month, is yet to get a budgetary back up. The budget's size — at Rs 4.79 lakh crore — is approximately 11.4% bigger than the previous one. One-fifth of the budget has been earmarked for debt-servicing. **TNN**

val. Once cleared, we can expect work to begin on metro connectivity to Jewar sometime this year, following a decision on the central-state share of funding for the project," Singh added.

Singh, who is also nodal officer for Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL), a body constituted by the UP government last year to get the Jewar airport project rolling, added, "Metro connecti-

vity to Jewar will be via Aqua line. For this, final logistics of an interchange at Pari Chowk Aqua line will be decided in our board meeting."

In the second phase, there's a proposal to connect Jewar airport to Indira Gandhi international airport in Delhi for which a techno-feasibility report will be prepared. Jewar airport is expected to become operational in 2022-23.