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Harry Kane and Spurs desperate for a win against Arsenal to keep title challenge on track after back-to-back defeats, P 36

Noida hikes budget by ₹900 crore, releases funds for Jewar airport

Defaulting Builders Can Now Clear Land Dues With Authority By May

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Noida: The Noida Authority on Friday announced a budget of over Rs 5,800 crore, around Rs 900 crore more than last year's allocation, with a thrust on infrastructure development.

The allocation of Rs 5,827 crore for the next financial year, came in the Noida Authority's 196th board meeting, the last before the Lok Sabha elections. The board also revised the current financial year's budget of Rs 4,350.11 crore to Rs 4,900 crore.

Apart from giving its share of Rs 1,069.50 crore for the Jewar airport project in its budget, the Authority allocated Rs 1,423.51 crore for various infrastructure projects that it intends to deliver by September 30.

"These projects include widening of bridge over Shahdara drain from Sector 14 to Sector 14A, underground parking slots in Film City Sector 16A and sectors 1, 3

Authority allocates ₹5,827cr for FY 2019-20



and 5, and multi-purpose indoor stadium in Sector 21A," said Rajeev Tyagi, general manager of Noida Authority. For civil engineering work like construction and maintenance of bridges, underpasses, elevated roads and drains, Rs 1,474.67 crore was set aside by the Noida Authority.

While no decision was ta-

ken on floor-wise registry of houses, defaulting builders have been given a major relief. They can now clear their dues to the Authority by May under the re-schedulement scheme. Under this amnesty scheme, a builder can deposit 10% (if the land dues is Rs 500 crore or more) of the dues and get occupancy certificate.

For residential sectors,

the Authority, in its board meeting, agreed to give 50% subsidy on power bills for running compost machines for the first year and 25% for the second year.

In addition to these, Rs 51 crore has been assigned for smart traffic management system, Rs 251 crore for sanitation work, Rs 251.45 crore for health, Rs 431.13 crore for water, Rs 429.65 crore for electrical work, and Rs 34 crore for circle-wise maintenance.

The Noida Authority board also took up the farmers' land issues in its meeting and decided to place their demand before the state government for consideration.

The Supreme Court had in May 2015 upheld a 2011 order of the Allahabad high court directing the Authority to distribute 10% of developed plots in lieu of land acquired from farmers for urbanisation and pay them 64.7% additional compensation. While GNIDA has already accepted the decision, Noida is

yet to take a call.

The Authority's decision to present their land compensation issue before the state government prompted farmers to call off their 18-day protest in Sector 6. "We are satisfied with the Authority's assurance. Following talks with Noida Authority, we called off our protest late on Friday evening," farmers' leader Sukhveer Singh Palwalwan told TOI.

"The meeting with the protesting farmers ended on a positive note as along with the district administration we have been persuading them for a dialogue since the first day of their protest," said Rajesh Kumar Singh, OSD to Noida Authority.

Moreover, the board also decided to return 8,500 sqm land to farmers of Hazratpur, Wajidpur, Azgarpur Jagir and Jhatta villages. "A meeting to this effect was held earlier with additional CEORK Mishra as well as the district magistrate," said Singh.