

# More wings to Jewar airport with 5 runways

## ‘Aviation Sector Helped Govt Bag ₹33L Cr Offers’

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**Lucknow:** One of the country's biggest infrastructure projects, Jewar greenfield airport in Gautam Budh Nagar, will have five runways instead of earlier proposed two, said finance minister Suresh Khanna while presenting the state budget on Wednesday.

Describing the civil aviation sector as ‘nectar’ for the state, the minister said no one could stop Uttar Pradesh from flying, as it was born to fly. He said the state government's unprecedented work in civil aviation sector has helped it attract investment proposals worth Rs 33.52 lakh crore through UPGIS 2023.

“The state has three operational international airports and two are under construction in Jewar and Ayodhya.



Senior UP government officials inspecting the Jewar site recently

The Jewar airport will have five runways instead of two,” he said.

According to official sources, soon land acquisition for the third runway will begin. Close to 1,335 hectares of land will be required for the project. Later, 2,053 hectares will be needed for the fourth and fifth runways. The airport will be developed in four phases, spread out over the 40-year concession period, with two interconnected terminals and a capacity to handle 70 million pas-

sengers annually. “The first phase will spread over 1,334 hectares with one runway, cargo hub along with a terminal that will cater to domestic and international passengers. By September 2024, the project worth Rs 5,730 crore will become operational. The second runway construction will begin once the airport reaches 80% of the 12 million passengers per year capacity,” said Shailendra Bhatia, nodal officer of NIAL.

He said: “The development of the third, fourth and fifth runways will begin when footfall increases from 12 million to 30 million, 50 million and 70 million.” The government has claimed that construction of six domestic airports, including Aligarh, Azamgarh, Moradabad, Shravasti, Chitrakot and Sonbhadra, will be completed soon.