

Noida airport's ATC tower may be handed over to AAI in Dec

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Noida: The air traffic control (ATC) tower at the Noida international airport will be handed over to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in December so that necessary equipment can be installed at the building, which is the nerve centre of operations.

The timeline was shared with AAI officials during a meeting held in Delhi on Monday to review the progress of construction.

The meeting was chaired by General VK Singh (retired) — the minister of state for civil aviation — and attended by officials from the private concessionaire, Yamuna International Airport Pvt Ltd (YIAPL), and the state government agency, Noida International Airport Ltd (NIAL).

Since the first phase of the airport is scheduled to start operations by October next year, the ATC tower, terminal building and runway need to be ready a few months in advance for trials.

While six of the eight floors at the ATC tower — which will be 38 metres high — are ready, officials hope the remaining two storeys will be built by February. Around 70% of the 3,900-metre-long runway has been constructed too and it is likely to be com-



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath conducted an aerial survey of the airport site while on his way to Bulandshahr on Tuesday. Since the first phase of the airport is scheduled to start operations by October next year, the ATC tower, terminal building and runway need to be ready a few months in advance for trials

pleted by March.

At the meeting on Tuesday, YIAPL officials were instructed to ensure there was enough workforce in the festive season so that deadlines for each segment weren't compromised.

"The installation of equipment will begin at the ATC tower in December. Around 70% of the equipment has already arrived at the site. The trial runs will start once the installation is complete," said Arun Vir Singh, the NIAL CEO.

According to officials, 7,137 workers are engaged at the airport site currently. "Alternative arrangements are being made so that the pace of construction isn't

affected because of festive season leaves of the workforce," Singh said.

Apart from the ATC tower and runway, work on the terminal building is also progressing in keeping with the timeline, officials said. The building is almost 50% ready and interior work is expected to start in a month or two.

On Tuesday, chief minister Yogi Adityanath conducted an aerial survey of the airport site while on his way to Bulandshahr in a chopper.

Last week, SP Goyal — additional chief secretary in the civil aviation department — had inspected the progress of construction.