Six e-bus routes from Noida and west UP to link airport in Jewar

Aditya.Dev@timesofindia.com

Noida: Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) is planning to operate electric buses on six routes initially connecting the Noida International Airport with Noida, Greater Noida and the nearby towns of west UP.

The proposed city routes include Jewar to Botanical Garden metro station in Noida, and another linking Noida Sector 35 with the airport via Pari Chowk. Buses are also being planned to Bulandshahr, Sikandrabad, and Khurja.

Officials said YEIDA had sought permission from UP Roadways and would hire an operator to run the buses once the approvals are in. The initial fleet will have 175-200 buses in it, equipped with enough space for luggage.

A passenger will have to download a mobile application to book a seat on his chosen route — just like in the case of shared cabs.

"The service aims at providing a dedicated public transport system for commuters and airport passengers. A network of electric bus routes linking the Jewar airport with more key locations in the region and beyond will be in place very soon," said Arun Vir Singh, the CEO of YEIDA and Noida International Airport Ltd (NIAL).

He added that if required, funding would be secured through NIAL to ensure there were no hurdles in implementing the service.

This fleet of all-electric buses is in addition to a wider programme of 500 vehicles that will operate on various routes across Noida, Greater Noida, and Yamuna Expressway Authority's township areas. The three development authorities have established a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to operate the electric bus service, which includes routes connecting Noida with Delhi and other neighbouring cities. A request for proposal for the bus service was issued last month following an order from UP govt.

While the Noida airport is set for an April launch, connectivity to it has been one of the

biggest concerns.