

## **Airports Authority of India**

### **Press Release**

#### **Greenfield Airport at Hirasar (Rajkot) to boost industrial growth in Saurashtra Region**

**New Delhi, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021:** To cater the growing population of the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the state of Gujarat and increasing flow of air traffic in this region, Airports Authority of India has undertaken the work for construction of New Greenfield Airport, Rajkot in Gujarat. With the project cost of Rs. 1405 crores, the new airport is envisioned to be a transportation hub for people traveling abroad from the state.

Rajkot city is the centre of the Saurashtra region of Gujarat and the 35<sup>th</sup> – largest urban agglomeration in India. The present airport is in the heart of the city and is suffering from considerable capacity restraints due to residential and commercial buildings which have been built around it. The present air strip is incapable of serving aircraft larger than Airbus 320 family/Boeing 737-800.

Spread over 1,032 hectares, a new greenfield airport has been planned with modern facilities and conveniences for the travellers with increased number of counter and other necessary facilities. The location of new airport is approximately 30 kms from Rajkot city and on Rajkot-Ahmadabad highway. With total built-up area of 23,000 sqm, the terminal building of this new airport will be capable to handle 1280 passengers during peak hours.

The Hirasar Terminal Façade design is influenced from the existing Palaces of Rajkot like the Ranjit Vilas Palace, integrating traditional elements into a contemporary form. An outer skin of traditional Jalis of Palaces is provided to minimize the heat gain inside building. The terminal will depict various artforms including dandiya dance through its dynamic external façade and splendid interiors. Rajkot is famous for its' golden jewellery and filigree work and that has inspired the exterior panel work at drop-off area of city side kerb.

The terminal will be equipped with state-of-the-art passenger facilities, four passenger boarding bridges, three conveyor belts and 20 check-in counters along with modern firefighting and fire alarm system. The city side area of the airport will also be developed for adequate parking facilities for car, taxi and buses along with landscaping. Runway length is planned for 3040 m for serving

B777-300ER/B747-400 type of aircraft which will be capable of parking 14 aircraft at a time.

More than 55% of earth work and 48% of Runway and other pavement works have been completed. The work for terminal building & ATC Tower has been awarded and mobilization has started. The present progress of the total project is 27%. The new airport will be ready for operations by March 2023.

Rajkot is effectively contributing to the economy of India through its small scale and heavy industries. The city is playing an important role in complex supply chains with global perspective, which is expected to grow exponentially. Air connectivity to the international market will boost the industrial growth, which in turn will generate new employment opportunities. Apart from this, the new airport will come up with lots of commercial development. This will boost travel-logistics, hotel industry, restaurants, warehouse-Cargo handling and clearing business etc. and many more.

Being located on Rajkot-Ahmadabad highway, this airport will aim to reduce time and cost related to logistics for multiple industries in the region. More Importantly, the ceramic industry of Morbi and other industries of Jamnagar also depend on Rajkot for Air connectivity

The plans to modernize and beautify the ancient city of Rajkot are already in place and all such infrastructure development projects including construction of greenfield airport will help promote the local business houses adding economic wealth to the country.

Issued by Corporate Communications Directorate, AAI

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Airside View



Apron with taxiway



Terminal Building



Completed Runway