

WORK ON international airport on track, says CEO

At BIAL, 42 per cent of work completed

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THE Bangalore International Airport will be open to people from April 2, 2008 as per schedule. Over 42 per cent of the work of the largest greenfield international airport in Devanahalli is completed.

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) chief executive officer Albert Brunner on Wednesday said that the work is in progress as per schedule and will be completed on time.

The construction of the airport, 35 kilometres away from the city centre, was started 17 months ago and will be completed in another 15 months. "Approximately, 23 per cent of the roof elements have been completed. Asphaltting work on the runway and laying of final top pavement quality concrete had com-

menced in the apron area of the 4 kilometres long and 60 metre wide runway," he said.

"The stand apron is being designed in such a manner that 42 C aircraft can be accommodated after it's completed. Further, the terminal can accommodate 11.5 million passengers

On course

- ❑ Bangalore International Airport to be open from April 2, 2008
- ❑ Thirty-months will be utilised in construction and six months will be utilised as testing period
- ❑ Adequate space on either side of the runway has been kept aside for future construction depending upon the traffic
- ❑ The entire construction of BIAL airport is being done using treated water provided by the BWSSB

with a facility to transfer between international and domestic terminals within the building," he added.

Brunner also said that the car park will have a facility for over 2,000 cars. There will also be shopping complex in future and a five star hotel, constructed by Oberoi group, under the banner of Trident Hilton, which will have 321 rooms near the terminal, with an investment of Rs 250 crore

Construction of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower and other auxiliary buildings is under-progress. There are 850 I&T construction workers working at the airport terminal, stated Brunner.

Brunner also asserted that a part of the passenger boarding bridges and the equipment for baggage handling was nearing completion, while other works such as manufacturing of the central air-conditioning equipment, apron flood light masts and fixture of electrical poles for urban lighting continued to progress.



Albert Brunner, CEO, BIAL at the Bangalore international airport.

—Express photo by Mohan Kumar B.N