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Cabinet clears greenfield Vijayapura airport

Public Works Dept is executing Rs 220-crore project

BENGALURU, DHNS

of the airport will come up near the Buranapur and Madhub-

The Cabinet on Thursday accorded its approval for a civilian airport at Vijayapura at a cost of Rs 220 crore.

"The Cabinet has given administrative approval for the airport project that will cost Rs 220 crore. Of this, Rs 95 crore will be released in the first year for civil works including leveling of grounds, construction of runway, taxiway, aprons and passenger terminal," Law Minister J C Madhuswamy said, briefing reporters.

The greenfield airport project is being executed by the Public Works Department that hopes to finish works in one year. According to Deputy Chief Minister Govind Karjol, who is also the PWD minister,

havi villages.

Some 727 acres were acquired for the project and work was entrusted to MARG Ltdin 2010, which was cancelled in 2014. Once completed, the Vijayapura airport will function under the UDAN regional connectivity scheme.

The Cabinet also gave administrative approval for the Indian Institute of Information Technology at Raichur. "Over four years, we've committed to spend Rs 44.8 crore on in-frastructure," Madhuswamy

Madhuswamy said the Cabinet decided to give an interest-free loan of Rs 2,500 crore to help Escoms pay off debt - Bescom (Rs 500 crore), Hescom (Rs 400 crore), Gescom

Govt hires Boston Consulting Group

The Cabinet on Thursday decided to hire global firm Boston Consulting Group as 'knowledge partner' for 12 months. "We will pay them Rs 12 crore plus GST," Law Minister J C Madhuswamy said. "They'll bring investors and investment into the state." The Cabinet also approved developing the Bengaluru Biotech Park, which has been entrusted to Labzone Electronics City Pvt Ltd.

(Rs 1,000 crore) and Cesc (Rs 600 crore).

Other decisions

- Develop, implement 'e-Procurement 2.0' project on PPP basis - Rs 184.37 crore.
- Karnataka Vidyuth Karkhane (Kavika) and Mysore Electrical Industries (MEI) to come under the energy department from commerce & industries de-

Lokayukta Act amendment

The Cabinet decided to amend Section 9 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act to fix timelines for investigation. "Preliminary inquiry contemplated by the Lokayukta or Upa Lokayukta should be completed in 90 days. Chargesheeting should be within 60 days," Law Minister J C Madhuswamy said.

partment.

- Reduce the market cess at APMCs from 1.5% to 1%.
- Approval to take up infrastructure works worth Rs 12.8 crore at Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences.
- Transfer the ownership of 4.34 acres of land to Tiptur Guru Pardeshikendra Swami Rangapura Kshetra, whose lease has ended, at 50% guidance value.