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Construction of new Parliament building starts

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NEW DELHI, DHNS.

The construction of the new Parliament building, which will come up close to the existing one, started on Friday.

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) cleared the space by removing small structures and shifting Parliament reception area in plot number 118 of the Parliament House Estate, that currently houses a reception, to make way for space to the construction company to start the works, said an official in the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Tata Projects Limited, which quoted Rs 861.90 crore, won the bid to construct the new Parliament building. The

company, which has been preparing for the past two months, started the construction works on Friday, said the official.

The project is expected to be completed in around 22 months from the start of construction work and new building is likely to be ready by late 2022. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the new building on December 10. Earlier this week, a 14-member heritage panel gave its approval to the building while also gave approved the Central Vista redevelopment project.

The Supreme Court had asked the Centre to seek prior approval from the panel and other relevant authorities before starting the construction work. The work could not start earlier as the government had

assured the SC that no construction or demolition work would commence till the apex court decided the pending pleas on the issue.

According to the CPWD, the project implementing arm of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the new building, which is part of the redevelopment of Central Vista project, will come upon plot number 118 of the Parliament House Estate, that currently houses a reception, boundary walls and other temporary structures.

The ground plus two-storey triangular-shaped structure will comprise halls with more seating capacity for both Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Besides, there will be a foyer, offices for members of Parliament, a court and dining facility.