

# Convention centre plan gets IDA nod, forest dept objects

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Indore: Indore Development Authority (IDA) board on Monday approved a plan to develop a 10,000-seat convention centre in 10 hectare situated on Super Corridor and reserving seven hectares of land adjacent to it for future planning. The forest department has however raised an objection related to the ownership and use of said land while seeking the district administration's help for clarity in the matter.

“Indore Development Authority board today gave an approval to develop a 10,000-seat convention centre on 10 hectares of land in Scheme-172 while seven hectares of land adjacent to it will be kept as reserved for further expansion of the proposed convention centre or developing other facilities as per the need in the future” the chairman Jaypal Singh Chawada told media-persons, adding that the board has also permitted to appoint a consultant to design a model of the proposed facility.

Indore DFO Narendra Pandwa, who was among IDAboard members attending the meeting, raised an objection, emphasizing on the need to acquire requisite permissions from the forest department to take any commercial use of said 17 hectares of land situated on Super Corridor at Gandhi Nagar Junction.

“The 17 hectares of land, identified for the proposed convention centre, belongs to the forest department and before taking any commercial use of the same, IDA will have to apply its land diversion under the forest conservation act. Besides, IDA will have to give equivalent land elsewhere, compensation and will have to bear the expenses on plantation” he said.

Chawada however claimed that the state government, while compensating IDA for its making availing 130 acres of land to TCS and 100 acres of land to Infosys on Super Corridor, has given said land. “Said 17 hectares of land situated on Gandhi Nagar Junction marked for proposed convention centre is part of 96 hectares of land, which IDA received as the compensation” he said, adding that IDA will approach the revenue department for clarity in the matter.

According to IDA CEO RP Ahirwar, the state government has so far given IDA possession of 65 hectares out of total 96 hectares of land as promised against the compensation for the authority giving a total 230 acres of land to the IT Companies.

“There are some confusions at part of the forest department and therefore, the district administration will carry out demarcation of the land for clarity in the matter.”