

Singapore's Changi Airport to up stake in Bengal Aerotropolis

Singapore, Aug 20: Singapore's Changi Airport International (CAI) has decided to increase its stake in Bengal Aerotropolis Projects (BAPL) to 32.2% from the 26% held since the project began in 2009. The stake increase was announced during West Bengal CM Manta Banerjee's official visit to Singapore and at a forum attended by Singapore-based businessmen.

The CAI stake increase in BAPL was approved by the state government last month.

"The project is looking promising for us to increase the stake in BAPL," CAI CEO Lim Liang Song said.

The Kazi Nazrul Islam Airport in West Bengal will improve the connectivity be-

tween Northeast Indians and BAPL townships as well as industrial zones, he said.

The airport being set up by BAPL in Andal, near Asansol is expected to commence operations from December.

WBIDC, which plays a pioneering role in provision of industrial infrastructure in West Bengal, entered into a Joint Venture Development Agreement with BAPL in 2008 to set up Durgapur Aerotropolis in Burdwan district of West Bengal.

This comprised a green-field Airport, aviation-intensive businesses and related enterprises, clusters of business parks, logistics parks, industrial parks and a township. *PTI*