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Malindi Airport Update February 2012

MALINDI AIRPORT

The new terminal building is now well near completion. The construction involves a new control tower, for improved air traffic control services, additional parking bays and general facilities at the airport, which has seen traffic rise substantially in recent years, more so since Kenya Airways resumed daily flights between Nairobi and Malindi.

The airport project is 95 percent complete and the Nairobi-based contractor Dickways Company is giving it the last touches.

At the new terminal building, the capacity for passenger will rise from the present 100 to as many as 500 ending the congestion that was previously experienced. While taking Mr Ben Kaparo, Medina Palms Corporate affairs manager around, Mrs Susan Jepkemoi, Assistant Airport manager said 'The new terminal will have a modern restaurant, cafeteria, a bar, duty free shops, offices for staff and airlines, conference facilities and a car park, although they intend to acquire more land to set up a bigger parking lot'.

Mrs Jepkemoi also said that the Kenya Airport Authority will spend Sh54 million to move the power station and for the installation of new power equipment to enhance power supply at the airport.

She also noted that the airport has set up a bio-digester to recycle water for usage in the toilets and produce gas for cooking.

The airport project is expected to boost the tourism sector in the resort town that mainly depends on the industry for economic development.



View of the new entrance at Malindi Airport



Malindi Airport Assistant Manager Susan Jepkemoi with Ben Kaparo, Medina Palms after showing him round the new facility

The next phase will likely include a substantial lengthening of the runway to cater for larger planes and possibly nonstop holiday charters from Europe directly into Malindi.

The government is currently at advanced stages of acquiring land adjacent to the airport to cater for this expansion.

DATE OF ISSUE FEB 10TH 2012

