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# President Ram Nath Kovind likely to inaugurate new Rajasthan high court building on December 7

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JODHPUR: New building of the Rajasthan High Court will be inaugurated on December 7 here. President Ram Nath Kovind is expected to inaugurate the new building as the programme of his visit is being finalized.

A senior official from the administration said that though no confirmation of the President's arrival has been received from his office yet but in principle consent has already been given regarding this programme.

“Though we have been awaiting confirmation on the visit from the President's office, we have already initiated preparations for his visit,” said

the official.

Besides the inauguration of the high court building, the President is also expected to participate as chief guest in the convocation ceremony at AIIMS, Jodhpur, the same day.

The construction work of this new building, that is akin to the Parliament in design, had begun in April 2011 with an initial deadline of four years but it took eight years for the building to complete.

Built at a cost of Rs 220 crores, the court building will have unprecedented security arrangements for three separate entries

each for the judges and registry officials, advocates and the high court staff and litigants and visitors.

The Rajasthan High Court began its functioning in Jodhpur on August 29, 1949 and 30 years later, a circuit bench was set up in Jaipur in 1979.

With the existing building falling short of the requirements with time, a new building had been proposed. Now, with the entire work completed and building ready for function, high court will be shifted in this new building while the subordinate courts will continue to function in the existing one.

Sources said that the work of shifting of files and other relevant documents related to the high court has already begun and it will take about 60 rounds of trucks to shift entire load in the new building.

Earlier, the inauguration of the new building of the high court was scheduled in September and an invitation to this effect was given to the President by the then chief justice of Rajasthan High Court S Ravindra Bhatt along with justice Sangeet Lodha.

“Also, the then Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi had been invited in the inauguration ceremony then but this programme could not take place and CJI Gogoi got retired last week,” said a senior advocate.