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Karachi Airport Runway Project Completed Ahead of Schedule

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KARACHI – The Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) has marked a significant milestone in its ongoing infrastructure development program by completing the Pavement Quality Concrete (PQC) works on the main runway (07L/25R) at Jinnah International Airport, nearly one month ahead of schedule.

The PQC phase, which began in late December 2024, was officially completed on 30 July 2025, well before the original deadline. This achievement reflects the effective use of advanced construction methods and coordinated efforts across multiple teams.

According to officials, the project deployed slipform paving technology, a cutting-edge technique that allows for the continuous pouring of concrete, resulting in greater strength and consistency. To maintain momentum and minimize delays, construction crews worked in round-the-clock shifts, even amid operational challenges such as weather fluctuations and logistical constraints.

A spokesperson for the PAA stated that completing this critical phase ahead of schedule demonstrates the authority's commitment to modernizing airport infrastructure and enhancing operational safety. "This runway rehabilitation will improve flight reliability and safety at Pakistan's busiest airport," the spokesperson added.

Parallel to the PQC works, significant progress has also been made on the Airfield Ground Lighting (AGL) system. The new system includes high-efficiency lighting designed to improve visibility for aircraft during takeoff and landing, particularly in low-visibility conditions. Authorities confirmed that lighting equipment has arrived on-site, and installation work along with runway and taxiway markings and cable laying is now underway.

The runway rehabilitation project at Jinnah International is part of a broader initiative to upgrade airport infrastructure across the country. The improvements aim to align Pakistan's aviation facilities with international safety and operational standards, helping boost the nation's air traffic capacity.

As the busiest airport in the country, Jinnah International Airport plays a central role in both domestic and international travel. Upgrades to its primary runway will enhance the airport's capability to accommodate increased passenger and cargo volumes while minimizing flight disruptions.

Further developments in the project, including system testing and final inspections, will take place over the coming weeks. The PAA is expected to announce a full operational timeline once regulatory clearances and system verifications are completed.

The early completion of the PQC phase is being welcomed by both aviation stakeholders and travelers, as it paves the way for improved service efficiency and air travel safety in Pakistan.