

China manufactures first electric plane

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Beijing: Chinese authorities have manufactured the world's first electric plane, a media report said on Friday.

The "BX1E" has a 14.5-metre wingspan and a maximum payload of 230 kg. It can fly at an altitude of 3,000 metres, Xinhua reported.

It can be charged within two hours and can fly for 45 minutes to an hour at a maximum speed of 160 kmph.

The plane was designed by the Shenyang Aerospace University and Liaoning general aviation academy in the northeastern Liaoning province.

The first two planes were delivered to Liaoning Ruixiang General Aviation Co. Ltd on Thursday.

According to the manufacturer, the aircraft can be used for pilot training, tourism, meteorology and rescue operations.

It is priced at about one million yuan (\$163,000).

- IANS