

Uttar Pradesh was never linked to nation's prosperity in past: PM Narendra Modi



CM Yogi Adityanath listens to the PM interacting with the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana in UP, via video conferencing

LUCKNOW: In a veiled attack on the previous Congress-led UPA government, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that in earlier times the ration of the poor was looted and UP was viewed Just from a political lens.

Interacting with beneficiaries of the PM Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana in UP through video-conferencing, Modi said that his government blocked all ways which allowed pilferage of ration. "We are satisfied that every grain sent from Delhi reaches the plates of the needy in the state," he said.

The PM said for many years, UP was viewed from a political lens and its prospects of playing a vital role in the country's development were not even discussed. "But the state's 'growth engine' potential has been promoted in the past few years," he added.



CM Yogi distributes ration to beneficiaries under PMGKAY scheme on Thursday

"People only used to consider that the route to Delhi went through UP. They never mentioned that the prosperity of the country also went through UP," he said, adding that after providing houses, toilets, electricity and gas, the government is working to provide water through pipelines to every household. Modi slammed the opposition of making UP as a mere "political centre" with some adhering to nepotism while others using it to serve individual political interest. "UP was only used to meet political ends," he said, underscoring that a big state like UP never got linked with economic prosperity of the country.

"The confidence that UP can become the powerhouse of the country has been generated in the last few years," he said. "The way Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana is being implemented in the state defines the new [Uttar Pradesh](#)," he said. Terming UP CM Yogi Adityanath as a 'Karma Yogi', the PM said that it was for the first time that criminals are fearing law and land-grabbers are being brought to book. "The system which got infected with Bhai-Bhatijawaad' has undergone a drastic change," the PM said, pointing out that it was because of a robust law and order situation that investment was pouring in and big companies are heading towards UP.

Thursday marked UP's celebration of PMGKAY under which almost 15 crore beneficiaries of the state have been getting ration free of cost under the ambitious scheme through nearly 80,000 Fair price shops in the state. Under the PMGKAY scheme, 5 kg per person additional foodgrain is given to all beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act. The PM's virtual address was telecast across nearly all fair price shops in the presence of party MPs, MLA, UP ministers and even Zila Panchayat chairpersons.

Modi also hailed the people of UP for not getting swayed by the rumours and lies spread by few people having vested interest around the 'India-made' Corona vaccines. He said that administering over 5 crore vaccines was a big achievement for UP and he hoped that the state would take the benefits of the free vaccination programme.

The PM lauded the efforts of people from UP in elevating strength of the country. He said that the upcoming expressways and dedicated freight and defence corridors. Modi stressed that the implementation of PMGKAY scheme in UP has affirmed its identity of being one of the leading state in the country. He also hailed the state government for providing relief to street vendors who were provided bank loans under the PM Svanidhi scheme.

MSP doubled in UP: Modi

PM Modi said that his government was committed to controlling the inflation which had an overbearing effect on poor and middle class families. "We are facing the challenges. But we are trying our best in controlling the price rise. Modi also reached out to the farming community by saying his government created records by providing a minimum support price. In case of UP, he said, the number of farmers getting the benefit of MSP doubled in 2020-21 in comparison to 2019-20.

Aug 5 auspicious: PM

Raising a nationalist pitch Modi termed Thursday (August 5) as an auspicious date which turned the dream of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' into reality by revoking Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir. The day, he said, also marked one year completion of the foundation laying ceremony for a grand Ram temple after centuries' old dispute. Modi's reference to Ram temple held much significance even as CM Yogi reached the temple town and stayed there for almost three hours to take stock of the temple construction besides visiting the Ram Janmabhoomi. Modi also acknowledged the day as a "historic" one as India men's hockey team claimed an Olympic medal after 41 years, defeating Germany 5-4 to win a bronze. "The sport has been our 'Rashtriya Gaurav' (national honour) which was reclaimed by our youth," the PM said.