Urban local bodies should focus on making cities smart, says UP CM Yogi Adityanath

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LUCKNOW: Pressing for healthy competition between urban local bodies, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday said that with the help of town planners, they should prepare a scheme to ensure 'ease of living' for the next 100 years.

The CM said this while laying the foundation stone of 76 nagar panchayat office buildings on Wednesday.

Encouraging them to increase their income and generate more employment, the CM said that every local body should focus on making their respective cities smart. "UP has done extremely well under the Smart City Mission. While 10 cities have been linked to this scheme by the Centre, the state government has also taken up seven more cities to

convert to 'smart' using its own resources. Integrated traffic management systems have been set up there, the benefits of which were seen during the Covid-19 period when they were used as Covid control rooms," the CM further said.

The first condition for urbanisation, the CM added, was to provide basic facilities to citizens. Some years back a large population did not even have a house to their name. In the past 4.5 years, the government has ensured that there is piped water in homes, 2.61 crore toilets were constructed and now, urban areas are no longer dirty, he said.

Yogi said nine lakh diyas that are to be lit in Ayodhya on the occasion of Diwali this year are emblematic of the 9 lakh people in urban areas who have been given homes by the government in the past 4.5 years.