

'Govt's focus is on infra, connectivity'

TNN | Dec 22, 2021, 04.28 AM IST

Lucknow: Terming infrastructure and connectivity as foundation stones for a developed society, additional chief secretary to the CM, SP Goyal, on Monday said when the present government came to power in 2017, there were four functional airports in UP. There are nine functional airports, of which three are international, he said. Addressing The Times of India Destination Uttar Pradesh Conclave, Goyal said in addition to existing airports, two international airports were under construction, one in Noida which would be the largest airport in the region and the other in Ayodhya.

"We have already provided land to Airports Authority of India and they will be starting construction very soon. In 2017, there were 25 destinations in UP which were connected to airports. Now, this number is 74. Areas around airports are also evoking a lot of interest among investors, particularly the Noida International Airport. Investors are making a beeline in this region," he said. The development agency under which the airport is coming up had taken out a scheme for residential plots which were over-subscribed by 80-100 times, he added.

He said there were many small airports and airstrips which the government was trying to put to use as training academies or flying clubs.

Director, civil aviation, Kumar Harsh said smaller airports were being developed in Aligarh, Shrawasti, Moradabad, Chitrakoot and Azamgarh. "Azamgarh is going to take off in a big way as there is demand for flights to west India. The project is at the final stage," he said.