

Third groundbreaking event to see investment beyond Noida in Uttar Pradesh

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LUCKNOW: The third groundbreaking ceremony could be breaking the cliché that investments in Uttar Pradesh rarely go beyond the Noida region. A region-wise assessment of intended investment projects in the state indicates that while western UP remains the biggest draw, investments in Bundelkhand, eastern and central UP are also coming. "As many as 1,406 projects are coming up in the state, of which 541 belong to other parts of the state," said Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi', cabinet minister for industries and infrastructure development.

Adding that nearly one third of the total investment expected at the third groundbreaking ceremony will create jobs in Purvanchal, Madhyanchal and Bundelkhand, the minister said that the total worth of the projects in other parts of the state crosses Rs 21,552 crore. In all, various investment

projects are pulling together an investment of over Rs 80,000 crore. As many as 29 companies are making an investment of at least Rs 500 crore. Also, 109 companies are starting their projects in the range of Rs 100-500 crore. The departmental assessment also indicated that the projects in regions beyond the west belonged to different categories with maximum listings in MSME, agriculture and allied activities sector.

While Purvanchal accounted for the maximum number of projects after west, central UP and Bundelkhand followed next. Nandi said that a look at the projects also indicates that the state was open to all kinds of investment ideas. Citing examples like Berger Paints unit coming up in Hardoi and Delta Combat System in Jhansi, the minister said: "The state is of the view that whenever one thinks of investment, Uttar Pradesh must echo in their minds."

Officials pointed out that big or small, any idea which is viable, creates jobs and upswings the local economy will see the light of day in Uttar Pradesh

"While on one hand, the state is looking forward to the manufacture of drones, on the other hand, projects like processing of cashew (coming up in Bareilly and Mathura) are also welcome," they said.