

Excise dept chalks out annual plan to attract ₹3.4k crore investments

Measures To Create Over 5,500 New Jobs

Neha.Lalchandani
@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: To increase revenue and draw investments into the sector, the excise department has formulated an annual plan under which simplified rules and favourable policies are expected to draw in a cumulative investment of Rs 3,400 crore into the state.

Under this, a target has been set to grant permission to eight distilleries and complete construction of 11 more which will together bring an investment of Rs 2,850 crore into the state and provide employment to 4,750 people. The plan also envisages completion of three new breweries and establishment of two vintaneries which will bring in an investment of Rs 500 crore and create jobs for 850 people.

With the rising trend of people eating out and to boost the food industry post Covid-19, a target has also been set to issue 50 licenses for restobars and nine microbreweries. This will lead to an investment of Rs 50 crore and direct employment opportunities for 590 people.

As part of the government's 100-day plan for each department to showcase the achievements of the Yogi Adityanath government, the excise department will allow at least three new distillery units to be set up and start production in three distillery units.

Under the ethanol blending programme, Uttar Pradesh, which is the highest producer of ethanol in the country, is currently supplying ethanol to oil depots in various states. Under the

5-YEAR ACHIEVEMENT

Licences have been issued for the establishment of new distilleries and microbreweries and premium retail vends

In the past 5 yrs, 28 new distilleries established

Investment | ₹4,581cr
Employment | 4,875

201 new resto-bar licences granted

Investment | ₹23cr
Employment | 2,300

Permission given to 15 new distilleries to produce alcohol

Investment | ₹1,825cr
Employment | 1,677



Annual licence fee (after settlement of excise shops)

Investment | ₹1,800cr
Employment | 54,000



Installed capacity of already established 40 distilleries increased by about 4,586 lakh kL in 5 yrs

Investment | ₹1,326cr
Employment | 951

13 microbrewery licences issued for Noida, Ghaziabad, Agra, Bareilly and Lucknow

Investment | ₹13cr

5 breweries established

Investment | ₹350cr
Employment | 450

52 premium retail vend licences granted in shopping malls

Investment | ₹26cr

100-day action plan, a target of 45 crore BL of ethanol production has been set. In addition to this, three new microbreweries/restobars will be set up.

Over the past five years, the excise department has seen revenue generation rise significantly, going up from Rs 17,320 crore in 2017-18 to Rs 36,321.06 crore in 2021-22.

Additional chief secretary (excise) Sanjay Bhoosreddy said that in this period, an investment of Rs 8,150 crore was received and employment generated for 75,539 people.

"Many of our new plans have contributed to generation of employment as well as additional income for farmers, besides increase in state revenue. During Covid, 98 FL-41 licences were

issued by the department to sugar mills, distillery units and others for making sanitizers. An investment of Rs 5 crore was received by the state and about 600 employment opportunities were created," Bhoosreddy said.

"In addition to this, the plan for establishment of a vintnery industry in the state will ensure usage of left over sub-tropical fruits like grapes, jamun, peach etc for use in the wine industry and farmers will get a fair price for their produce," he said.

Data available with the department shows that most of the new distilleries set up over the last five years have not been given any subsidy. Despite that, investment has come into the state due to ease of doing business, fast processing and simplified rules.