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West, central UP to be auto-EV industries hub

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LUCKNOW: The western and central parts of Uttar Pradesh will be transformed into a hub of auto and electric vehicle industry comprising both primary and spare parts manufacturing units.

This is part of initiatives taken by the state government to achieve its goal of becoming a one trillion-dollar economy by end of 2027.

"Several significant units of auto and electric vehicle industries of various scales are operating in western and central UP. There is need to shape and scale them up," Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had said in a meeting recently. He added that the scale up would help in creating jobs too.

Officials in the state industries and infrastructure department said the government has decided to spend about 20 billion dollars for the cause.

They also informed that the state government had already chosen Gautam

Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Lucknow, Hapur, Kanpur Nagar and Meerut for the setting up of big enterprises to encourage the auto industry.

"To develop western UP as an original equipment manufacturing belt and create a trillion-dollar economy for the state, sufficient resources are already on hand. Alongside, central Uttar Pradesh is very suitable for the most important metal industry for the auto industry as well as other industries related to it. For these industries, the MSME sector already exists. It just has to be given a bigger shape. The land required for the purpose - an estimated 9-10,000 acres - will be provided by the state government," said a government official. It may be noted that UP's growth prospects on the count are significantly promising. UP's Growth State Value Addition (GSVA) was pegged to be 1.5 billion dollars in 2019 which is expected to touch five billion dollars mark in the next five years. The rising demand for electric vehicles will add to the opportunity.

Officials are of the view that CM has called upon large and MSME players in the auto industry to make most of the opportunity. They said the development of expressways network in the state has made expansion of business possible. To boost exports, a linkage with the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor may also be built.

The CM has also emphasised on the need to pay additional attention to ancillary and downstream sectors associated with the automotive sector. Officials said the state was working to expand the network of electric vehicle charging besides covering the requirements for allied stages/processes like manufacturing battery, iron works, painting services etc.

Once in place, the automobile parts with electric vehicles made in UP will feed the market needs of companies based in UK, US, Australia and South Asia. Back in the state, the boost to this sector will help in creating 1.10 lakh jobs annually.