

Sonbhadra turns over a new leaf, attracts ₹79K cr projects

Next Only To Noida In Investments

Shailvee.Sharda
@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: Coming out of its old Naxal shadow, Sonbhadra, an aspirational district of UP, infamous for contrasts of life with overall backwardness as its crux, has emerged as an investment magnet of Uttar Pradesh.

According to data sourced from the state government, the eastern UP district, which was also marred by Naxal activities at one point of time, has stood second only to Noida in terms of investment intent set



PROGRESSIVE CHANGE

to take off in the upcoming ground-breaking ceremony.

Consider this: Of the total investment proposals attracted by Sonbhadra during the global investor

summit held in February 2023, as many as 43 intents worth Rs 79,000 crore are set to become a reality at the upcoming ground-breaking ceremony. Though this is significantly less

than what Noida has attracted – Rs 1.96 lakh crore -- but way more than the districts at number three, four and five in the order. State capital Lucknow and Bareilly have bagged the fourth and fifth slots. While in Lucknow, 327 projects worth Rs 34,000 crore are ready to hit the ground, Bareilly would see 357 projects valuing Rs 31,700 crore.

In all, UP was able to garner investment intent worth Rs 40 lakh crore. Industry experts are of the view that Sonbhadra has emerged as a dark horse on the count of investment proposals translating into real action and business.

Officials concerned stated that three projects in the energy and green energy sectors hold a lion's share of the invest-

ment in Sonbhadra. While one of them is a 2X1600 megawatt super thermal power plan, in Obra along with another in Singuauli, another is 3660 megawatts off stream close loop pump storage project. Jhansi ranks number three with 173 projects worth Rs 63,000 crore set for launch.

Talking about the performance of other Naxal affected districts, an official spokesperson stated that Chandauli is set to see the start of projects worth Rs 17,400 crore, while Mirzapur would see projects worth Rs 6,000 crore taking off. He also attributed the steps taken by the Yogi Adityanath government to establish rule of law and ensure peace, which are necessary for business interest growing into intent and then evolving into action.

GROUNDBREAKING