

# UP to get 9 new airports in 15 months: Civil aviation minister

Anupam Srivastava

[anupam.srivastava@hindustantimes.com](mailto:anupam.srivastava@hindustantimes.com)

**LUCKNOW:** Union minister for civil aviation Ashok Gajapati Raju on Thursday said Uttar Pradesh would get nine more airports in next 15 months.

Addressing the UP Investors' Summit here, the minister said Uttar Pradesh got nine out of 25 routes finalised by the Centre under the regional connectivity scheme.

"Nine more operational airports will come up in Aligarh, Azamgarh, Bareilly, Chitrakoot, Jhansi, Moradabad, Myrupur (Sonebhadra), Allahabad and Shravasti in 15 months," Raju said.

"Allahabad will be connected to 13 cities of the country. No one would have imagined this a few years ago. When the BJP came to power, there were 476 airstrips in the country and only 75 of them were airports. In three years, we have added 18 airports," he said.

The minister said 56 more airports would be added in the country in next 15 months as the government wanted everyone to

## SPECIALITIES OF JEWAR AIRPORT

- Site clearance already provided
- Metro connectivity from Greater Noida station to Jewar assured by UP government.
- Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority is the nodal agency
- The airport area will be developed. It will have industrial clusters and education centres around it.
- Able to handle 25 million passenger load.

## AVENUES FOR INVESTMENT

- Air cargo and logistic service
- Freight forwarders
- Aircraft service providers
- Chartered airlines and low-cost carriers
- Ground handler companies
- Aviation insurance
- Airport infrastructure developers
- Maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO companies)
- Aircraft manufacturers

## What is UP doing to boost investment?

In case an airlines purchases aircraft or helicopter manufactured or assembled in Uttar Pradesh, it will be eligible for 50% concessions as per the Industrial Investment Employment Promotion Policy (2017).

experience air travel. "Only one per cent population of Uttar Pradesh travels by air that is why there is a huge untapped passenger potential. Air traffic is increasing in UP at a rate of 28.8% while cargo is going up by 32%. This is when most of the potential remains untapped," he said. Raju said Lucknow airport would soon

have a unit of maintenance, repair and operations. "It will give services for aircraft at the lowest possible rates not only in India but globally too," he said.

He said helipads would be developed at tourist destinations like Vrindavan, Mathura, Naimisharanya, Chandra Prabha, Mahoba, Chunar and Deogarh.