Rs 30,000 crore infrastructre boost puts Gorakhpur on growth track



An artist's impression of Ayush University

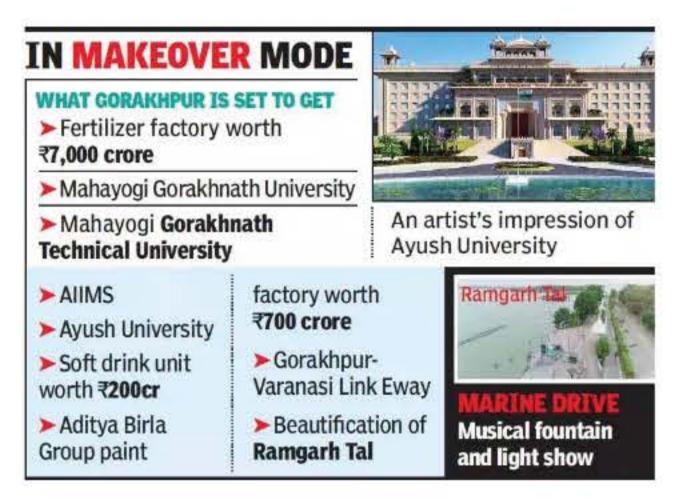
LUCKNOW: Gorakhpur, the city known for its handloom and terracotta crafts, is on a transformation trip.

Besides scores of industries that are being set up, infrastructure development worth over Rs 30,000 crore is finally taking shape in Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's hometown.

Latest in the list of schemes is the project to make Gorakhpur a Varanasi-like education hub.

According to officials, the new Rs 7000 crore worth fertilizer factory, coming up in place of the old unit shut in 90s, is expected to become operational in a month's time. The factory is expected to produce 3,850 metric tonnes of fertilizer. In addition to this, AIIMS, Gorakhpur has also been set up. As of now, OPD and MBBS studies have already begun on the AIIMS campus.

According to officials at Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA), a total of 259 big and small industrialists have taken land to set up their units here since 2017.Till now, an investment worth Rs 1000 crore has been made in the region and Rs1500 crore more is expected to be invested by the year end. A multinational soft drink brand has sought 32 acres of land for setting up a bottling plant.



The giant soft drink brand is expected to invest Rs 200 crore and the plant is expected to generate employment for 500 people. Similarly, Aditya Birla group has also sought 70 acres of land for setting up a paint factory. The group is estimated to invest Rs 700 crore.

The under construction Gorakhpur-Varanasi Link Expressway is expected to boost connectivity with the

region. The tourism sector has also seen big development in the city with beautification of Ramgarh Tal and the road adjacent to it just like it is at marine drive in Mumbai. The area by locals is now called marine drive of Gorakhpur. The taal also has a musical fountain and light show. While several other development works are underway, the city has taken a giant leap as far as development of the educational sector is concerned. The city which had only two higher education institutes, Deen Dayal Upadhayaya University and Madan Mohan Malviya Institute of Engineering, will now have two more.

President Ram Nath Kovid, who is on a four-day visit to Uttar Pradesh, would reach Gorakhpur on August 28 and lay the foundation stone of <u>Mahayogi Gorakhnath University</u>. The President is also expected to inaugurate Mahayogi Gorakhnath technical university. Similarly, to increase the participation of youths from the region, foundation stone has been already laid for a state government run <u>Ayush</u> <u>University</u>.

Both the universities have been named after Nath sect priest Mahayogi Guru Gorakhshnath. The Ayush University near Pipri and Tarkulahi in Bhathat block would be spread in 52 acres of land. This would be the first Ayush University in the state. The one campus would have departments of Ayurved, Unani, Homeopathy and Yog Medication. All the 95 Ayush Colleges would be affiliated with this university.