

UP: Sibling IT entrepreneurs share office land free of cost for Kanpur Metro

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LUCKNOW: Siblings and entrepreneurs, Priyank Gupta (36) and Ishank Gupta (32), were initially in a fix when they received a notice from the Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation (UPMRC) regarding acquisition of the land, which they had purchased to set up their office, for Kanpur Metro project. After deliberations, the brothers showed a big heart and decided to share a part of their land worth Rs 48 lakh with UPMRC for the construction of Motijheel Metro station without taking a single penny.

BTech graduates Priyank and Ishank own an IT firm which has offices in San Diego city in California (US), and in Noida and Kanpur in India. They had set up their firm seven years ago.

Keeping in view the huge pool of IT talent available in Kanpur, the duo bought land in Swaropnagar to set up their office.

“Kanpur has huge IT talent but lacks skill in blockchain technology. Therefore, we decided to expand our operations in our hometown and bought a commercial land at a higher price than the circle rate in the end of 2019, as paying the rent for office was causing a huge financial burden on us,” said Ishank, the younger of the two.

“However, a month later, we received a notice from UPMRC regarding acquisition of our office land for Kanpur Metro project,” he said.

“Initially, we didn’t know how to respond to the notice as we were more focused on expanding our company. Moreover, the compensation amount offered for the entire land was low as compared to what we had paid for it. Finally, we decided to share our land with UPMRC after discussing nuances and came to a mutual agreement to support the government project,” said Priyank, who returned from the Netherlands where he worked as a tech developer for a Dutch airline. Priyank did his graduation from a Mathura-based private university while Ishank completed his graduation from Lucknow.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a UPMRC official engaged in the Kanpur Metro project, said: “Initially, we wanted to buy the entire land. However, as we required land for only two pillars, we dropped the initial plan. The Gupta brothers were humble enough to share their land with UPMRC without charging a single penny. In reciprocation, we also cooperated with them and gave them the entry and exit space for their under-construction office.”