

UP CM hails Centre's role in urban development works

TNN | Jan 5, 2022, 04:19 AM IST



LUCKNOW: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was full of praise for newly appointed chief secretary Durga Shankar Mishra on Tuesday, saying he took personal interest in the implementation of various urban development projects in UP, including the Metro Rail projects, housing, Smart City Mission, and the Amrut Scheme, while he was in Centre. "In the past five years, we received absolute cooperation from the Centre in the implementation of urban development projects and the person who took special interest as he was a resident of UP and helped take us take the projects forward has now become the chief secretary of the state," the CM said, while addressing a programme where he launched projects worth approximately Rs 38,500 crore.

Among the projects, Rs 908 crore is for work like solid waste processing plant, waste to energy plant and 1,100 pink toilets under the Smart City Mission, Rs 926 crore for Amrut schemes like water connections and sewerage lines, Rs 699 crore for buildings of local bodies in Ayodhya, Ghaziabad, Mathura-Vrindavan, Rs 10.71 crore for free wi-fi under local bodies, systems for electric buses in seven cities and payment of Rs 500 crore to beneficiaries under the PM Awas Yojana.

"Urban development is an important aspect of working towards making the country a \$5 trillion economy. We have added three nagar nigams, three new nagar palikas, 84 nagar panchayats and expanded the boundary of 61 local bodies," the CM said.

He added in the past five years, urban areas have finally started looking like urban, developed areas. Earlier, a city meant piles of garbage, plastic, stray cattle, and filth.

In the Swachh Bharat rankings, five cities from UP have made it to the top 10 cities in the country.

Out of the 100 smart cities being developed, 10 are in UP and the urban development department linked the programme with the remaining local bodies through Mission Convergence to develop them as smart at its own cost.

The state has also used the integrated traffic management system (ITMS) for better traffic management, the safe city programme and security of residents.

"We had the best Covid arrangements for which we had set up the integrated command and control centres. For this, we used ITMS extensively. Under PMAY, 33 lakh families were given a house without any bias. Under 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas', people have been given power connections, gas connections, bank accounts, insurance under Ayushman Bharat. Basic facilities like water and sewer connections, solid waste management etc., have been provided in urban areas, which was only possible under a double engine government," the CM said.

He added that previous governments used to hoard the money meant for public schemes, hiding it in walls whereas this government was spending money on people. "I was scared we will have to use dynamite to blow up the walls behind which they have been hiding money," the CM said.