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THE TIMES OF INDIA

SCR: Housing department of Uttar Pradesh to ready outline by April 18

TNN | Mar 28, 2023, 06.15 AM IST



LUCKNOW: The housing and town planning department of Uttar Pradesh is expected to prepare the final outline and timeline required for the preparation of the state capital region (SCR) by April 18.

As many as 18 domestic and international consultants, who are into urban planning, have shown initial interest in preparing the plan required to give shape to the state capital region that includes eight districts comprising 34,002 sqkm.

The consultants had sought some relaxations in the conditions mandated by the government for making the plan. "Conceived in 1985, only national capital region and surrounding districts of

Haryana, Rajasthan and UP) is of similar size. No other regional plan covering such a large area has been prepared so far," said a senior officer from the department.

The department had initially set a condition that only the consultants who have prepared a regional plan comprising at least 5,000 sqkm will be eligible to work on the regional plan of UP's state capital region. However, after interactions with consultants it has relaxed the condition to allow companies that have prepared two regional plans spanning over 3,000 sqkm to participate in the bidding process.

The department has given time up to March 31 to the 18 consultants to prepare the outline post which it will

finalise its document and begin the process of selecting a consultant. Comprising Lucknow, Sitapur, Hardoi, Unnao, Barabanki, Rae Bareli, Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat, the aim of the government is to ensure economic development in all eight districts.