

UP's upgraded 'bus ports' to offer airport-like facilities

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: The Yogi government has planned to upgrade the state's bus stations on the lines of airports. To be rechristened as 'bus ports', the hi-tech facilities at these renovated bus stations will include a VIP lounge, cafeteria, food court, shopping malls, waiting area, escalator, and lift.

Besides, people will board buses on the platform at these bus ports in a manner similar to how they board flights through the airport.

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- on PPP model
- Selection of pvt developers for five bus stops, Kaushambi (Ghaziabad), Vibhuti Khand (Lucknow), Prayagraj Civil Lines, Old Ghaziabad, and Agra Fort, has been completed
- Investment is likely to create over 2,000 direct & indirect jobs

vate developers is underway. The selection of private developers for five bus stops has been completed. The work will start after getting the chief minister's approval.

The five bus stations include those in Kaushambi (Ghaziabad), Vibhuti Khand (Lucknow), Prayagraj Civil Lines, Old Ghaziabad, and Agra Fort.

The Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) has received an investment proposal for Rs 1,000 crore for the purpose. The investment is expected to create more than 2,000 direct and indirect job opportunities. The procedure for selec-

ting developers for the remaining bus stops will soon be finished. Through the bid process, the department received a number of investment proposals, including from those who had submitted proposals through UP (Global Investors Summit).

The department has finalized five investor-cum-developers regarding the construction of bus stands. Work will start after the approval of the Committee of Secretaries headed by the Chief Secretary and then the state Cabinet.

The bids of numerous other builders, including Omaxe and SPG Builders, ha-

ve been included for modernization of these bus stations. According to investment proposals, Kaushambi bus station will cost Rs 245 crore, Vibhuti Khand Rs 307 crore, Prayagraj Civil Lines Rs 276 crore, Old Ghaziabad Rs 114 crore, and Agra Fort bus station Rs 22 crore.

These proposals have been accepted but are yet to be finalized. For the rest of the bus stations, the process of selection of developers and agreement is in progress.

UPSRTC has also received investment proposals in another category that is related to IT, in addition to modernizing bus stations.