

₹1.4k-cr 4-lane road to link Jhansi, Khajuraho

Gadkari, CM Lay Foundation Of ₹3,500cr Projects In Bundelkhand

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Banda (UP): In another big infrastructure push in Bundelkhand, Union road transport & highways minister Nitin Gadkari and UP CM Yogi Adityanath in state's Mahoba district on Monday inaugurated and also laid the foundation stones of nine projects worth Rs 3,500 crore for the region. After the Bundelkhand Expressway, these new projects are bound to accelerate growth and development in the once-most-backward-region of UP.

Gadkari and Yogi dedicated a Rs 1,400-crore four-lane road project (NH 75-76) between Jhansi and Khajuraho. This road network will give better connectivity to tourist hotspots of Jhansi, Orchha, Khajuraho and Panna tiger reserve. Through NH-44, this network will also give direct connectivity to Delhi. They

also inaugurated Rs 11-crore wayside amenities between Jhansi and Urai.

The Union minister and the CM also laid the foundation stone of the first phase of the Rs 1,681-crore project for constructing the 46-km-long Kanpur (UP)-Sagar (MP) four-lane national highway. The first phase of the NH will be between Kanpur and Kabrai and this highway will be linked to Bundelkhand way and Lucknow green way. Once this road project is completed, Bundelkhand will have direct connectivity with metro cities and it will also cut travel time between Mahoba and Bhopal to just 5 hours from existing 10 hours via Jhansi.

In Mahoba, UP CM Adityanath said, "Under the guidance of the President and PM, UP had recently received investment proposals of Rs 35 lakh crore during the UP Global Business Summit. The

huge investment proposals came because people have started realising that the security situation of UP has improved of late and also the state infrastructure has become better. Due to these heavy investments, we will be able to give employment to one crore youth of the state in the coming three years. Now, the youth of UP do not have to migrate to other regions for jobs."

He also praised Gadkari for improving road infrastructure across the country. "Under the guidance of Gadkariji, new road connectivity has come up and the highway network has improved manifolds that has taken India to new heights. The world is stunned that how come India, despite being in the grip of the Covid pandemic, is growing so fast now. Big infrastructure boost is one of the reasons behind India's exponential growth," Yogi said.

While announcing the

projects, Gadkari said, "Under the leadership of PM Modi, we are committed to building new roads of progress in UP with the development of national highways." He said these road projects will improve connectivity between UP and MP. The minister also made the announcement of the four-lane Ram Van Gaman Marg, a project that seeks to retrace the route believed to have been taken by Lord Ram on his way to exile with Sita and Lakshman. While praising the heroes of Bundelkhand, Gadkari also asked the UP CM to let him know where people face more traffic jams, "there I will build fly over bridges".

Other projects whose foundation stone was laid by both the leaders on Monday included Rs 63.75 crore Kidari railway crossing, Rs 78.5 crore Supa railway crossing project and Rs 50.77 crore Matong crossing overbridge project.