

# Lucknow is poised to be the first AI city in country

## 40-Acre Land Near Airport To Be Centre

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**Lucknow:** Lucknow will be developed as the country's first Artificial Intelligence city. Chief Secretary DS Mishra led a team of officers from various departments to work on this plan for eight months before giving a detailed presentation on this to

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath recently.

A 40-acre land situated close to the Amausi airport in the city is going to be the core centre of the project. The roadmap being prepared by the UP government is divided into five broad categories to realise the transformation. Creating infrastructure, offering support to AI start-ups, establishing the AI industry, data analytics and providing the skilled manpower required for the industry are parts of the five-pronged approach that is going to be

### AIMING IT RIGHT

- Lucknow to be developed as **AI and ML hub**
- State to offer infra, policy support and facilities to **start-ups and companies**
- Courses and modules to be revised within **technical institutes** for creation of manpower
- Government departments to utilise tools and solutions for improved efficiency
- **Consultation with**



**stakeholders** will be organised to convince established players to **shift to the city**

followed. Officials clarified that contrary to the general perception that Lucknowites will experience AI in their day-to-day lives, the objective is to position Lucknow at the top slot in the country for somebody interested in exploring AI.

Principal secretary of the industries and IT department, Narendra Bhoosan, said, "We have already started moving ahead on this front. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (ML) are evolving as attractive employment options for IT gradua-

tes. We have partnered with IIT Kanpur and are working closely to translate things on the ground."

The IT department has already started the work on setting up a centre of excellence to finalise the highest quality of courses and carry out research and further development.

Special secretary, IT department, Kumar Vineet, said that APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University (AK-TU) is helping in introducing and revising the courses and training modules within the

engineering colleges and technical institutes to educate more graduates on the subject and nurture the talent pool.

The department is developing the ecosystem to handhold the start-ups being launched by graduates in the AI and ML domain at its 40-acre wide facility in phases.

Meanwhile, a team of government officials is going to be constituted to reach out to the leading entrepreneurs and companies to consider opening an office in the facility. Officials said that incenti-

ves and sops are going to be on offer under the state's IT policy and basic infrastructure is going to be provided.

On the other hand, key government departments and agencies in Lucknow are going to be asked to deploy data and analytics tools to improve citizen-centric services as well as delivery of government-sponsored schemes.

Principal secretary, planning, Alok Kumar, who is also the nodal officer for implementing the USD 1 trillion vision by 2027, said, "Noida has already developed into an IT hub in the state. It is time to do the same with Lucknow. The initial push is going to be provided by the government."