

UP scheme to facilitate NRIs in developing native places

CM Launches Matrubhumi Scheme

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday inaugurated the Matrubhumi scheme under which persons from UP settled abroad will be allowed to contribute financially for development of various infrastructure work in their native villages and then name the facility after anyone they chose.

Under the scheme, the government will fund 40% of the project and provide land while the remaining will be borne by the NRI.

This is being done to not only ease the financial burden of the government but also connect NRIs with their roots.

During the event, the CM also awarded 370 outstanding gram panchayats under the Mukhyamantri Panchayat Protsahan Puraskar Yojana and provided laptops to 3,145 gram panchayat secretaries under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Scheme. Elab-



CM Yogi Adityanath during a ceremony to felicitate outstanding gram panchayats in Lucknow on Friday. Also seen in picture are deputy CM Keshav Maurya and finance minister Suresh Khanna

orating on the Matrubhumi Scheme, the CM said currently the programme is being rolled out in rural UP but soon it will be spread to urban areas as well.

“The mother and motherland are greater than heaven. There can be no comparison between them. Therefore, everyone should be given a chance to participate in the Mathrubhumi Yojana. The scheme will serve two purposes. First, it would connect individuals with their roots and secondly allow them to contribute towards their motherland,” the CM said. He asked the panchayati raj department to develop a mechanism through which

the person contributing funds can be given an account of the expenditure, saying that earlier people feared misappropriation of their money if they sent it to the government. The CM said the Central and state governments were taking various measures to make gram panchayats ‘smart’. These initiatives, included gram sachivalayas, optical fibre network, sanitation facilities, LED street lights, good roads, computer operators and BC Sakhi.

“To help them improve further, there was a need to encourage healthy competition between them. Therefore, the government would be organi-

sing cleanliness competitions between villages and cities,” he said.

He also stressed on the need to go digital.

“Therefore, laptops have been given to gram panchayat secretaries to help make their working more efficient. It will assist in advancing the programmes of the gram panchayats and promote e-governance initiatives. Technology is the biggest blow to corruption, but it should be used and not misused,” the CM added.

The CM also interacted with two NRIs who have expressed interest in investing in UP.

Sanjeev Rajoura, who has been living in California (US) for 21 years, was present at the event in Lucknow and said he was keen to investment in his home district of Bulandshahr.

Another resident of California, Vivek Chaudhary, spoke to the CM on video call.

Hailing originally from Modi Nagar, he spoke about the enthusiasm among the NRI community to invest in UP and highlighted projects like health ATMs, community centres, schools, colleges etc where NRIs could help the government with infrastructure development.