

UP now nation's largest labour market too: CM

Also On Track To Become Growth Engine

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Lucknow: Calling Uttar Pradesh not just the largest consumer market but also the largest labour market in the country, chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said the state was working to become the growth engine for the country and was integral to India's development journey.

Speaking at a summit organised by the Indian Steel Association in Lucknow, the CM elaborated on the infrastructure development in UP over the past six years, saying



CM Yogi Adityanath at Indian Steel Association Summit in Lucknow

INDIAN STEEL ASSN SUMMIT

that the country's longest expressway — the Ganga Expressway — which would allow one to travel from Meerut to Prayagraj in just six hours, would be completed by 2025.

"There were only two active airports in the state before 2017. Today, there are nine fully operational airports, including three international ones. By the end of this year, 10 more airports will become operational, including new international airports in Ayodhya and Jewar," Yogi said. For further improvement of connectivity and linking three capitals — Delhi, Lucknow and Patna — the state had an impressive network of expressways, he said.

He said that despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the state government managed to complete work on the Bundelkhand and Purvanchal expressways. "Currently, there are 13 expressways in operation or under development in UP. During the biggest pandemic of the century, UP government proceeded with the construction of the Purvanchal Expressway using which, one can reach Patna from Delhi in just 10 hours," he said.

Through these expressways, the CM said, some of the

most backward areas in UP like Purvanchal and Bundelkhand, had been linked with development. He said that one can now travel from Delhi to Chitrakoot in just five hours. "The establishment of a multi-modal terminal in Varanasi has also progressed on war footing. Two dedicated freight corridors will come together in Dadri in UP. Work on the construction of a multi-modal logistics hub there and the establishment of a multi-modal transport hub in Bodaki are also progressing on war footing," he said.

Inviting investments into UP, Yogi said that over the past six years there had been a major improvement in law

and order. UP provided an excellent environment for investment, he said, and assured the guests that their investments would be safe in the state.

"There are no riots or disturbances during festivals now. VVIPs can visit the state without any disruption. We organised the Kumbh Mela in 2019 which was attended by 24 crore devotees. There were no untoward incidents and no disorder. All these changes could have been brought about by previous governments but they did not have the right intent," he said.

The CM added that UP currently has the single largest single-window system for investments in the country.