UP to monitor air, water, soil quality along def corridor

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: To monitor pollution levels along the upcoming defence industrial corridor, the state government will be carrying out monitoring of air, water and soil quality in districts falling along the corridor, like Lucknow, Kanpur and Aligarh.

A government spokesperson said that laboratories will be set up for regular monitoring of air quality, noise, groundwater quality, soil quality and groundwater levels in areas falling under the defence industrial corridor.

Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) has invited applications from laboratories affiliated with the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (Mo-EF), and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), for regular monitoring of mainly five parameters in Lucknow, Kanpur and Aligarh nodes. The application process will be completed on September 11.

"The contract will be for one year according to the tender issued by UPEIDA, and it may be extended based on performance. UPEIDA may distribute the work amongone or several other labs," the official said.

The selected labs will not only have to carry out regular monitoring of the set parameters, but also provide periodic reports to the government. For air quality monitoring, the labs will conduct 24-hour monitoring of particulate matter PM-10 and PM-2.5, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide and other nitrous components. Levels of noise

pollution will also be measured on the day and night basis. For monitoring water and groundwater pollution levels, parameters such as acidity, alkalinity, aluminium, arsenic, biochemical oxygen demand, bicarbonates, calcium carbonate, chloride, chromium, copper, iron, lead, magnesium, manganese, nickel, nitrogen compound, sulphates, sodium and zinc will be checked.