



Manoj
Kumar
Singh

“Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath’s emphasis on the rule of law is the reason why we are a leading state in infrastructure development. Secondly, there is transparency, which has increased people’s confidence in the government. That’s the reason expressways, each requiring acquisition of 8,000-10,000 hectares, are being built in two-three years”

MANOJ KUMAR SINGH

Additional Chief Secretary,
Agriculture Production
Commissioner, Infrastructure
and Industrial Development
Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh

ROADS, RAIL, AIRPORTS UP SHOWS THE WAY

A Powerhouse in the Making

Be it infrastructure development, attracting investment or agricultural production, Uttar Pradesh is now a leader among states

The new Uttar Pradesh is full of new hope and confidence, says the state’s Additional Chief Secretary **Manoj Kumar Singh**, who is also UP’s Agriculture Production and Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner.

BUILDING CAPACITIES

Uttar Pradesh accounts for around 35 per cent of access-controlled expressways in the country. Within a year, the Ganga Expressway will be ready. We have the second-largest network of roads, the largest network of railways, the largest network of operational airports and very soon will have the largest airport in

Asia, in Jewar. After Noida was set up as an industrial town in 1976, the government has decided to create another industrial area in Jhansi, for which the state will acquire 36,000 acres. The industrial department has one portal—Nivesh Mitra—which handles all applications. To incentivise investment, 25 sectoral policies have been notified by different departments. UP is No. 2 in ease of business across India. After the Kashi Vishwanath temple corridors, similar structures around Maa Vindhyavasini temple are being developed. All this has given a boost to tourism. The inflow of domestic tourists last year was 240 million, equalling UP’s population. One of the two defence corridors sanc-

tioned in the country will be in UP and a new expressway across 12 districts, the longest in India, is being planned in Bundelkhand. The government is planning a solar park on 1,700 acres on both sides of the 300-km-long expressway. Last year, in the global investors’ summit, the state received intents of investment of around Rs 33 lakh crore, and over 22,000 MoUs were signed. To attract FDI, the government is giving 75 per cent concession on land.

BANKING, CROP DYNAMO

In around 36,000 of UP’s 58,000 gram panchayats, self-help group members have been trained to become banking correspondents who help the rural population access facilities. Transactions under direct benefit transfer schemes in UP are worth Rs 70,000 crore annually.

In over 14 agriculture/ horticulture/ dairy produce, including milk, wheat, potato and mango, UP ranks first in the country—a real powerhouse that produces 17 per cent of India’s foodgrain production. Around 70 per cent of the land mass is arable, out of which 80 per cent is irrigated. UP is taking various steps to increase productivity by two-three times by using latest technologies. These are some glimpses of the turnaround UP has been witnessing. ■