

Growth track: Green light to SCR, Lko Metro expansion

Primary aim is to foster planned dev akin to Delhi NCR; Charbagh to Vasant Kunj Metro line to be established by June 30, 2027

HT Correspondent

letters@htlive.com

LUCKNOW: The state cabinet on Tuesday gave a major push to development in the state capital ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, approving the proposal related to the formation of the Uttar Pradesh State Capital Region on the lines of the NCR and other regional development authorities. It also gave nod to Lucknow Metro's expansion with 11.165-km-long east-west corridor from Charbagh to Vasantkunj that would be constructed at a cost of Rs 5801.05 crore by June 30, 2027.

Chief minister Yogi Adityanath presided over the meeting of the state cabinet that gave a go-ahead to the draft Uttar Pradesh State Capital Region and other Regional Development Authority Ordinance 2024 that would be promulgated to set up the SCR and other regional development authority for coordination and expeditious development of the area under its purview.

Notably, recognising the necessity for organised growth within the state capital region, particularly in the districts like Barabanki, Rae Bareli, Hardoi, Sitapur and Unnao, which

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The SCR aims to boost development across Lucknow and adjacent districts

DEEPAK GUPTA/HT FILM

Govt waives power bills for farmers' tube wells

HT Correspondent

lkoreportersdesk@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: In what comes as a Holi gift for 15 lakh farmers of the state, Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath announced on Tuesday a waiver of electricity bills for private tube wells of the farmers, effective from April 1, 2023.

Clearing a long-pending proposal in the Cabinet meeting, the government allocated Rs 1,800 crore in the 2024-2025 budget for the implementation of the scheme.

Furthermore, the government has proposed a scheme aimed at assisting farmers with outstanding electricity bills pre-dating April 1, 2023, to settle their bills without accruing interest and offering them convenient installment options.

Sharing this information with mediapersons, energy minister AK Sharma said that with this announcement, the government had kept its promise of providing 100 per cent exemption from power tariffs to the farmers owning private tube wells in the state. →P2

AT A GLANCE

- The state capital region (SCR) will have six districts comprising Lucknow, Sitapur, Barabanki, Rae Bareli, Hardoi and Unnao.
- It will have an area of around 28,826 sq km
- And population of around 2.3 crore.
- The SCR's main objective is to negate the imbalanced growth and rapid population influx in Lucknow from adjoining districts.
- Also, decongesting Lucknow by ensuring planned development in all districts under the project.

OTHER DECISIONS



- 2 more 800MW power plants to come up →P2
- Nod to green hydrogen policy paves way for massive investment →P2
- Mathrubhumi Yojana gets cabinet nod →P2
- East-West Corridor will improve access to Old City areas →P3