Over 97% work for Gorakhpur link e-way done: UPEIDA

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: More than 97% of the work related to the construction of the Gorakhpur link expressway that connects Gorakhpur with Purvanchal expressway has been completed and indications are that the remaining work would finish by June end.

CEO of UP expressways industrial development authority (UPEIDA), Manoj Kumar Singh, who held a review of the project on Wednesday, said: "The opening of this link expressway will significantly contribute to the economic, social and industrial development of UP's Purvanchal regions. It is expected to spur development in agriculture, commerce and tourism sectors and generate more employment opportunities."

Officials said that out of 341 structures planned along the Gorakhpur link expressway, construction of 337 has already been completed, with the remaining structures expected to be finished soon.

The list includes four flyovers, 12 vehicular underpasses (VUPs), 29 light vehicle underpasses (LVUPs), 25 pedestrian underpasses (PUPs), five major bridges, seven minor bridges and 206 box culverts have been constructed on this expressway. The expressway will also have a 110-meter right-of-way (ROW).

The 91.352 km-long expressway being built at an estimated cost of Rs 5,000 crore will facilitate smooth and fast travel between Lucknow, Agra and Delhi.

Considered one of the

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priority projects of chief minister Yogi Adityanath, the Gorakhpur link expressway begins near Jaitpur village on Gorakhpur bypass NH27 and connects to Salarpur in Azamgarh.

UPEIDA has incurred an expenditure of Rs 1,564 crore on land acquisition and Rs 3,478 crore on construction of this link expressway.

To provide access to residents of villages along the expressway, service roads are being constructed on one side of the expressway. Plans are also underway to build public amenities at two locations along with underpasses for the convenience of expressway users.

The Gorakhpur link expressway from Lucknow to Gorakhpur has been divided into two phases and is being implemented under the EPC (Engineering, procurement and construction) mode.

The state govt has also decided to construct industrial corridors along the expressway, which will create opportunities for employment. The process of land acquisition for the industrial corridors, covering 1,250 acre, has already commenced, officials said.