State govt to develop five UP cities as IT & ITES hubs

Step To Make UP A Trillion Dollar Economy

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: To ensure the transformation of the state into a global IT hub, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has started the process of developing five districts as major centres for the IT and ITES sectors.

These cities include Gautam Budh Nagar, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, and Prayagraj. While Gautam Budh Nagar will be developed as an IT and ITES hub, Lucknow will focus on artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Kanpur will become a centre for drones and robotics, while Varanasi and Prayagraj will be established as hubs for engineering research and development (ER&D).

"The state govt is focusing on making Uttar Pradesh a USD 1 trillion economy within the next three years. A key part of this plan is to promote IT and ITES sectors. This includes prioritising skill development in emerging technologies to boost employment opportunities and create high-paying jobs," a govt spokesperson said. The govt will also establish a land bank for the IT and ITES sectors and enhance infrastructure for the development of IT cities and IT parks.

"The govt is considering formation of a state-level IT and ITES advisory committee to establish the state as a brand of IT hub. This committee will collaborate with industry and academic stakeholders to develop strategies and measures to promote the sector. The govt is exploring the possibility of granting industry status to IT sector, which would allow IT units to access electricity at industrial tariffs," the official added.

The govt is also devising a strategy to attract investors from AI and drone industries, as well as from the Gulf Cooperation Council, to invest in the state's IT sector.

Plans are also afoot to enhance the branding of UP cities as IT hubs through technology-related conferences.