

SCR roadmap to focus on 7 strategic areas

Plan Envisages Holistic Growth Of Six Districts

Shalabh@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: The outline for the State Capital Region (SCR) has been framed. The Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) has started work on formulating a comprehensive roadmap that envisages a holistic and sustainable regional development of six districts—Lucknow, Sitapur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareilly, and Barabanki—under the SCR. It would provide balanced urban growth to a population of over 3 crore. Currently, Lucknow attracts maximum economic activities while the neighbouring districts remain underdeveloped.

“Most of the investors demand land in prime cities of the state. Noida, Ghaziabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra, Mathura, and Varanasi are among the leaders. The objective of SCR is to provide a developed land bank around Lucknow so that carrying out business and commuting becomes easier for all stakeholders,” said additional chief secretary, housing and urban planning, Nitin

COMPONENTS OF UP SCR PLAN

- Baseline assessment to identify commercial business centres
- GIS-based plan
- Studies & surveys (traffic, transportation, & origin-destination, among others)
- Stakeholder consultation (reaching out to various



groups and individuals to create a vision plan till 2051)

- Formulating regional devt strategies
- Identifying projects for regional devt
- Action plan & milestones (short, medium & long-term)

Ramesh Gokarn.

Another official said Lucknow has about 700 small-scale industries operational for every 1 lakh individuals while Sitapur has just 130 for as many people.

As per the 2011 census, the population of Lucknow was about 46 lakh while that of Sitapur was 45 lakh. Similarly, Lucknow has 17 banks available per lakh population, and Sitapur has 3, Hardoi 4, Unnao 4.5, Rae Bareilly 5, and Barabanki has just 4.

Having constituted the regional development authority in July, the state govt has taken the first step towards the process of formulating policies for controlling land usage and creating urban infrastructure within UPSCR.

LDA is focusing on seven strategic areas that include

economic development, social welfare, health, education, housing, transportation, and regional preservation.

“It will take 25 years to shape up a better and planned UPSCR on the lines of the national capital region (NCR). Preparing the plan will take six years while work on augmenting infrastructure would be carried out simultaneously,” said an official.

Planners will identify commercial business centres across the five neighbouring districts, which would be linked to Hazratganj via wide roads. Dedicated rapid bus corridors, metro lite, and rapid rail services are some options that would be explored to bring down the commute time between Hazratganj and commercial business centres to 40-45 minutes.