Special education zones to come up in Lucknow, 5 other districts

HT Correspondent

letters@htlive.com

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government has started the process of developing special education zones in six districts, including the state capital.

The districts where these zones will come up include Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Ayodhya, Agra and Gautam Buddh Nagar.

The special thing is that education from zero to university will be imparted through the establishment of various educational institutions in these special education zones, an official said.

The education sector will also contribute a lot towards fulfilling CM Yogi Adityanath's goal of making the state a one trillion dollar economy.

This is why the education sector has been classified as an industry. The Higher Education Promotion Policy-2024 has also been approved by the cabinet to promote this industry.

"In such a situation, after making the state a hub of world class quality education and after 'Ek Mandal Ek University', now YOGENDRA
UPADHYAY SAID A
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the focus is on the goal of 'One District One University," said a government spokesperson.

Higher education minister Yogendra Upadhyay said a detailed action plan has been prepared for setting up special education zones in the state.

As per it, the state's first such zone will be set up on Mohaan Road in Lucknow. An education city will be developed in an area of 785 acres and various educational institutions will be established there.

"Out of this, the development process has started in 103 acres for which Expression of Interest (EOI) has been issued," the minister said.

"This special education zone

will act as a model on which such zones will be set up in other 5 districts of the state," he added.

In the order, the unused land parcels of Acharya Narendra Dev University in Ayodhya, RBS College in Agra and Gautam Buddha University in Gautam Buddh Nagar will be used.

The process of land acquisition has also started in Gorakhpur and Bundelkhand. All these special education zones will pave the way for establishment and development of a maximum of 8 each and 40 educational institutions in total.

Principal secretary, higher education, MP Agarwal said 42 universities and top educational institutions would be set up especially in aspirational districts.

These will be developed as Multidisciplinary Education and Research University (MERU) as per the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP).

At the same time, various facilities including stamp duty exemption, capital grant will be provided for setting up of top-50 NIRF ranking and eminent foreign universities in the state.