

UP's 68 villages to get connected with rural road network

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Sixty-eight villages in Uttar Pradesh, each with a population of less than 500 and located in aspirational blocks, will soon be connected through a rural road network under the PM Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

The ambitious project, aimed at expediting rural connectivity in the state, is proposed to be undertaken under the fourth phase of the PMGSY, which will continue until the 2028-29 fiscal year. Of the 500 aspirational blocks identified by NITI Aayog, Uttar Pradesh accounts for the highest number at 68, followed by Bihar with 61.

The 68 aspirational blocks also include those in eight aspirational districts: Bahraich, Balrampur, Chandauli, Chitrakoot, Shravasti, Siddharthnagar, Sonbhadra, and

Fatehpur.

PMGSY-4 entails financial assistance for the construction of 62,500 km of all-weather roads in 25,000 unconnected habitations across 500 aspirational blocks nationwide. The total outlay for this scheme is estimated at over Rs 70,000 crore.

SMOOTH TRAVEL

A senior UPRRDA official said that the all-weather roads would play a crucial role in catalysing the socio-economic development and transformation of remote rural areas.

PMGSY-4 will incorporate international benchmarks and best practices in road construction, such as cold mix technology, waste plastic, panelled cement concrete, cell-filled concrete, full depth reclamation, and the use of construction waste and other materials like fly ash and steel slag, according to a press note from the Centre.