

Nod to 2 spl regions to boost religious tourism and growth

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Prayagraj: In line with the state capital region, two special regions – Prayagraj-Chitrakoot belt and Varanasi-Vindhyachal belt – will be created in Uttar Pradesh.

The decision was taken in a state cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj on Wednesday. The go-ahead has been granted to the housing department to start planning for the two regions.

The idea behind the decision is to promote religious tourism in two backward parts of the state to achieve sustainable growth with the help of one regional magnet (Prayagraj and Varanasi). The housing department is already working on a state



CM arriving for cabinet meeting

capital region, which includes Lucknow and five neighbouring districts.

After completing preliminary surveys and research, planners and urban planning experts will help in the preparation of a detailed outline. The state could create separate offices and establishments to govern planned development within two special regions announced on Wednesday.

Earlier, on July 19 last year, the state govt had created

State Capital Region and Other Regions Development Authority. It will act as the umbrella organisation to take forward the regional planning of various parts of the state, including the SCR and the two special regions planned around Prayagraj and Varanasi.

The state has planned to create additional high-speed corridors to link Bundelkhand, Prayagraj, and Chitrakoot with the existing network of expressways to improve connectivity in Prayagraj-Chitrakoot belt and in Varanasi-Vindhyachal belt by covering Mirzapur, Bhadohi, Chandauli, and Sonbhadra. Officials said that the area to be covered under the special regions would be known only after preliminary homework was completed.