

{ **UPSCR PROJECT SET TO ROLL** }

Chennai firm to draft master plan, cabinet approval soon

On the lines of the National Capital Region (NCR), the SCR will have Lucknow, Hardoi, Sitapur, Unnao, Rae Bareli and Barabanki with a total area of 27,826 sq km.

HT Correspondent

letters@htlive.com

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh State Capital Region (UPSCR), envisioned as a major driver of regional development and real estate growth, is poised for a formal launch with the state government selecting a Chennai-based firm as the top bidder to prepare its master blueprint.

Officials confirmed that the selected firm emerged as the Level-1 bidder among three applicants.

Its appointment is expected to be cleared by the state cabi-

MEMBERS OF UPSCR

- **CM:** Chairman
- **Chief secy:** vice-chairman
- **CEO:** Additional CS, housing and urban planning dept
- **Ex-officio members:** Additional CS of finance, law, revenue, planning, urban development, industrial and infrastructure development, Namami Gange, PWD, tourism, forest, rural development, panchayati raj, agriculture, irrigation and transport departments
- Divisional commissioners of Lucknow and Ayodhya
- DMs of Lucknow, Hardoi, Sitapur, Unnao, Raebareli, Barabanki
- Vice -chairman of Lucknow, Unnao-Shuklaganj and Rae Bareli
- Development Authority
- Chief town planner
- Maximum five urban planning experts
- MD of UP Metro Rail Corporation
- Representatives of railways and defence nominated by Central government.
- CEO nominated by the state government

Area	
Lucknow-	2,528 sq km
Barabanki-	4,402 sq km
Sitapur-	5,743 sq km
Hardoi-	5,986 sq km
Unnao-	4,558 sq km
Rae Bareli-	4,609 km

net shortly.

According to government sources, a team of 18 experts from the consultancy will be tasked with preparing a detailed project report (DPR) for the SCR, a regional planning initiative modelled on the National Capital Region (NCR).

The project will integrate six districts, Lucknow, Barabanki,

Hardoi, Sitapur, Rae Bareli and Unnao, covering a combined area of 27,826 square kilometres.

The SCR is being developed as a balanced urban-rural growth region around Lucknow.

According to the 2011 Census, Lucknow district alone has a population of 45.89 lakh over

2,528 sq km. Barabanki, its immediate neighbour, spans 4,402 sq km with a population of 32.60 lakh.

To ensure seamless intra-regional mobility, the government plans to introduce a Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) connecting the six districts.

The project will mirror the operational Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor, which has drastically reduced commute times and eased pressure on roads.

Sources said that the proposed plan includes the construction of two 100-km-long ring roads and five elevated corridors aimed at reducing traffic congestion and improving regional connectivity.

Urban development minister AK Sharma said that the project will move forward shortly, with groundwork for planning and coordination already underway.

Officials said the integrated approach of the SCR will open up large-scale investment opportunities across its constituent districts.