## UP leads with 42% of country's access-controlled e-way network

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: After the inauguration of the 91-km long Gorakhpur Link Expressway on Friday, Uttar Pradesh now accounts for 42% of the country's total access-controlled expressway network, up from 38%.

Once the under-construction 594km long Ganga Expressway from Meerut to Prayagraj is inaugurated, UP will be able to boast of having 62% of the country's accesscontrolled expressway network, a govt spokesperson said.

"There are other expressways that are under construction in the state and the govt has approved several new ones as well," he said.

Chief secretary Manoj Kumar Singh said that out of 2,900km of access-controlled expressways across the country, UP alone has accesscontrolled expressways spanning 1,200km.

"The construction of Go-



rakhpur Link Expressway not only crossed geographical barriers but is also set to transform the socio-economic landscape of Purvanchal. Total Rs 7,200 crore was spent on its to build, with Rs 3,400 crore spent on its construction and the remaining amount was allocated for land acquisition and other expenses. For this, 1,100 hectares of land were acquired from 22,000 farmers," he said.

Gorakhpur Link Expressway is the seventh expressway in UP. Apart from this, three are under construction and eight are proposed. Those under construction are the 594-km long Ganga Expressway, the 35-km long Ballia Link Expressway, and the 63-km long Lucknow-Kanpur Greenfield Expressway.

Other major projects include Chitrakoot Link Expressway, which will connect the Agra-Lucknow Expressway to Purvanchal Expressway and the Bundelkhand Expressway via Farrukhabad, and a link expressway connecting the Ganga Expressway and Jewar Airport Link Expressway.